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AN  
HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
OF  
ENGLISH MONEY,  
FROM THE CONQUEST to the PRESENT TIME;  
INCLUDING  
THOSE OF SCOTLAND, FROM THE ACCESSION  
OF JAMES I. TO THE UNION OF THE TWO  
KINGDOMS.  
Illustrated with Copper Plates and Tables of  
Gold and Silver Money.

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By STEPHEN MARTIN LEAKE, Esq.  
CLARENCEUX KING OF ARMS.

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THE THIRD EDITION,  
WITH ADDITIONS.

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*Firmamentum Belli, et Ornamentum Pacis.*

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TO HIS GRACE  
E D W A R D,  
DUKE OF NORFOLK,  
EARL MARSHAL OF ENGLAND, &c.

MY LORD,

WHEN I found it necessary to publish a Second Edition of this Book, I thought myself obliged to address it to Your GRACE: And Your GRACE having shewn an inclination towards *Englisch* Coins, makes me hope the Work itself will not be

## DEDICATION.

unacceptable. I am very conscious of its defects ; but, imperfect as it is, I flatter myself Your GRACE will accept it as a testimony of respect and gratitude, from,

May it please Your GRACE,

Your GRACE's most obliged,

And faithful humble Servant,

STEPHEN MARTIN-LEAKE.

CLARENCEUX.

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# P R E F A C E

T O T H E

S E C O N D E D I T I O N .

*W*HEN this Book was first published in the year 1726, our English Coins had been very much neglected ; there were but few Collections, and the Author (then a young Member of the Society of Antiquaries) could offer very little from his own observation. His principal view was, to excite others to a search into this branch of our English Antiquities ; and considering how eagerly our English Coins have been sought after, how much the value of them has been enhanced, and how many curious Collections have been made since that time, it seems to have had the desired effect.

*As*



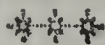
*As by these means many new discoveries have been made, which illustrate and ascertain the different Pieces, a History of our Money has been more than ever desired. But nothing of that kind having appeared, the first impression of this Book long since disposed of, and a demand for it still subsisting, the Author was prevailed upon to offer this Second Edition; and he undertook it the more willingly, considering the imperfections of the First, and that it was known to be his. If it had not been for this, the Public would either not have seen this edition, or without his name to it, not being in the least desirous to be known as an Author.*

*As to this Second Edition, though upon the same plan as the former, it is so much improved and enlarged, that it is in a manner wholly new. Every reign consists of an historical and a descriptive part; the first deduced from our Laws, Histories, and Records; the other containing a particular description of the particular Coins, fuller, and more complete than in the former edition, besides those struck by our Kings in foreign parts. He is, however, sensible of many defects in every article.*

*Whoever*

*Whoever undertakes a full and complete History of our English Money, should view all the Cabinets of the Curious, which is attended with so much trouble, and such infinite obligations, that is sufficient to discourage the most eager Antiquary (much more the Author) from undertaking it: and though he had seen each Collection, he would yet want that leisure, and opportunity, to compare the Coins, which is absolutely necessary. It is a work, therefore, only to be undertaken by a Society of Antiquaries, which would obviate all these inconveniences; and, by this means, a complete, beautiful, and correct series might be exhibited to the Public (as some of the more scarce and valuable Pieces have already been) which we can hardly expect to see well executed by any other means. As the Author has had little or no information from the Collections of others, his defects are the more pardonable, though, he hopes, there will be found no material errors; and perfection in a work of this nature is impossible, even though he had scrutinized every Collection, and consulted all our Connoisseurs; for, after all, many things must be left to conjecture; and where he has given his*  
*opinion,*

*opinion, it will always give place to a better. He could indeed have been more full in the Historical Part than he has been, but he chose to contract it, having no design to anticipate a more complete History of our English Money, which he hopes our Antiquaries will one day give us. And he will be fully satisfied to see his defects supplied, and another finish what he has imperfectly begun.*





A N  
HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
O F  
*ENGLISH MONEY, &c.*

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INTRODUCTION.

**B**EFORE we enter upon our Account of *English Money* from the *Norman Conquest*, it will be proper to say something briefly of the Money in Use antecedent to that Time, with some other Matters necessary to be previously discussed.

Barter, or Exchange of one Commodity for another, is generally agreed to have been the most ancient Way of Traffic, till Necessity, the Mother of Invention, found

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out



## INTRODUCTION.

out the Use of Money, as a common Measure for all Things.

When, and by whom Money was first invented, is very uncertain ; but probably it began soon after Mankind multiplied upon the Earth, and had Commerce with each other. The *Jews*, and some others, attribute the Invention to *Tubal Cain*, because he is said <sup>a</sup> to have been an Instructor of every Artificer in Brass and Iron : But this will require a strong Imagination to conceive ; nor does it appear there was any Money in Use before the Flood ; but afterwards it is expressly mentioned in Scripture. *Abimelech* <sup>b</sup> gave to *Sarah* a thousand Pieces of Silver, and *Abraham* <sup>c</sup> weighed four hundred Shekels of Silver, current Money with the Merchant, which he paid to *Ephron* the *Hittite* for a Place of Burial. *Joseph* <sup>d</sup> was sold to the *Midianite* Merchants for twenty Pieces of Silver ; and *Jacob's* Brethren <sup>e</sup> carried Money into *Egypt* to buy Corn, which sufficiently proves the current Use of Money at that Time, in those respective Places. Some think that this Money was stamped with the Figure of

<sup>a</sup> Genesis iv. 22.   <sup>b</sup> Genesis xx. 16.   <sup>c</sup> Ib. xxiii. 16.  
<sup>d</sup> Ib. xxxvii. 28.   <sup>e</sup> Ib. xlii.



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a Lamb, because in another Place<sup>a</sup>, *Jacob* is said to have bought a Parcel of a Field of the Children of *Hamor*, for *Centum Agnis*, as the vulgar *Latin* has it, and the old *English* Translation, an hundred Lambs, or Money so marked ; and that they were Pieces of Money, is pretended to be proved from a Passage<sup>b</sup> in the *New Testament* ; for which Reason, and because Money is mentioned in other places of the Book of *Genesis*, our latter Commentators have made it *Centum Nummis*, or a hundred Pieces of Money. And a *French* Writer<sup>c</sup> is so particular, that he tells us they were real Money, like the *French* Mutons, and that *Thare*, *Abraham's* Father, graved the Stamps. But besides, that this Money is sometimes (as above) called Pieces of Silver, and *Abraham* paid his Shekels<sup>d</sup> by Weight ; the Name itself, from *Shakal*, to weigh, implies as much ; for Money, at the first, seems to have been a Merchandize, exchanged or given for other Commodities. According to the Decalogue, the *Jews* were not to have, nor never had, the Representation of

<sup>a</sup> Genesis xxxii. 19.    <sup>b</sup> Acts vii. 16.    <sup>c</sup> Monf. Boizard Traite des Moneys, 8vo, Paris 1714, p. 4.    <sup>d</sup> See likewise *Jacob's* Sons, Gen. xliii. 21.

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any living Creature upon their Money, to take away all Occasion of Idolatry. It is also certain, that Payments were long after this made in Cattle; for thus *Homer* values the Golden Armour of *Glaucus* at one hundred Beeves, and the Copper Armour of *Diomedes* at nine; and the *Greeks*<sup>a</sup> were derived from *Javan*, the fourth Son of *Japeth*, whence it is that *Javan* is sometimes put for *Greece*, and *Ogyges* is supposed to have been cotemporary with the Patriarch *Jacob*. But *Theseus*<sup>b</sup>, who reigned in *Attica*, about the Time of the Judges in *Israel*, coined Silver Money, with the Stamp of an Ox upon it. Afterwards the *Grecian* Kings and Cities, a great while before the Foundation of *Rome*, coined Money, both of Silver and Gold, with curious Heads and Reversees, so exquisitely performed, that the *Romans* hardly ever equalled it in their most flourishing state. This Money the *Greeks* called *Nomisma*, of *Nomos*, because it was ordained by Law.

In *Italy*, *Janus*<sup>c</sup>, the first King of *Latium*, who reigned seven hundred Years

<sup>a</sup> Potter's *Antiq. of Greece*, vol. 1. p. 3, 5.

<sup>b</sup> Signior Barnardo Davenzati's *Discourse upon Coins*, 4to, Lond. 1696. p. 11. <sup>c</sup> *Knowledge of Medals*, 8vo, Lond. 1697, p. 49, 15, 48. Sir Walter Rawleigh's *Hist. of the World*, Lib. 1. p. 140.

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before the Foundation of *Rome*, (about the time of *Ruth*) or *Saturn* his successor, stamp the first Money there of Copper, having the Head of *Janus*, or of *Janus* and *Saturn* joined together by the hinder Parts; and on the Reverse the Prow of a Ship: Which Money continued in Use till five hundred Years after the Building of *Rome*, when the *Romans* having made themselves Masters of all *Italy*, coined Silver Money, and some Time afterwards Gold, having at first only Leather Money, in King *Numa's* Time, and plain Copper, without any Mark at all, till King *Servius Tullus* First stamped them with the Figure of an Ox, a Sheep, or a Hog; at which Time it began to be called *Pecunia*, à *Pecude*. It was also called *Moneta*<sup>a</sup>, à *Monendo*, because it does admonish us of its Name and Value; and from this *Latin* Word *Moneta*, the *Saxon* Word *Munet*, or *Money*, the *German* *Muntz*, the *French* *Monnoies*, the *Italian* *Moneta*, the *Spanish* *Moneda*, are derived.

Whether the *Britons* had any coined Money in these early Times, has been much

<sup>a</sup> Davenzati's Discourse, p. 11. Camden's Remains, 8vo, Lond. 1674. ch. Money.

controverted amongst our Antiquaries. *Cæsar* says<sup>a</sup>, they used for Money, Brafs, or Iron Rings, sized at a certain Weight, of which kind *Speed*<sup>b</sup> tells us he had seen found, and dug up in little Cruses, or Pitchers of Earth ; but he is the only Writer, I think, that pretends to have seen any of it : However that be, certain it is, there have been found in this Island, and are now extant, Coins of Gold, Silver, and Brafs, of various shapes and weights, which *Camden*<sup>c</sup> says he never could hear were dug up in other Countries, till of late (1607), some few were found of the same kind in *France*; which, however, is nothing extraordinary, considering the Intercourse between the two Nations, and that the Coins of the *Britons* are said<sup>d</sup> not to have been unlike those of the ancient *Gauls*. *Speed*<sup>e</sup> describes these Coins to be embossed outward, and shield-like, whereon the Inscription or Face is seen; the Reverse hollow, as they mostly are, and thereon their Devise, which is

<sup>a</sup> Commentaries. His words are, Utuntur aut ære, aut annulis ferreis ad certum pondus examinatis, pro nummo ; But some have it, aut Taleis ; others, aut Laminis.

<sup>b</sup> *Speed's Hist. of England*, Fol. Lond. 1632. p. 25.

<sup>c</sup> *Britannia*, by Gibson, Lond. 1722. p. 109. <sup>d</sup> *Britannia*, p. 114. <sup>e</sup> *Hist. of England*, p. 25.



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commonly a Horse, or some other Beast, a Ship, a Bird, or some barbarous unintelligible Figure.

The Question is, by whom these were coined, and for what Purpose? Bishop *Nicholson*<sup>a</sup> gives his Opinion flatly, that never any of the *British* Kings coined Money; that most of those *British* Pieces, which are not Counterfeits, he takes to be *Amulets*, which were in use among the *Romans* a good while after they came into *Britain*; and the *Amula*, from whence they had their Name, was a little drinking-cup, most probably of the Fashion of these Coins: But he does not resolve us why the *Britons* imitated the *Romans* in their Amulets, and not in their Coins, seeing, from the Time of *Julius Cæsar*, to that of *Claudius*, they lived under their own Laws, and were governed by their own Kings.

*Camden*<sup>b</sup> thinks, that after the arrival of the *Romans* in this Isle, the *Britons* imitated them: That this sort of Money did not pass current in the way of Trade, but was at first coined for some special purpose:

<sup>a</sup> English Historical Library, fol. Lond. 1714. p. 36.

<sup>b</sup> Camden's Remains, 8vo, Lond. 1674. ch. of Money. *Britannia, Conjectures upon British Coins*, p. 113.



That after *Cæſar* had impoſed a Tribute upon the *Britons*, and they were afterwards oppreſſed with Customs, and other Taxes, for Corn-Grounds, Plantations, Groves, Paſturage of greater and leſſer Cattle, ſuch Coins were firſt ſtamped for theſe uſes ; for greater Cattle with a Horſe, for leſſer with a Hog, for Woods with a Tree, and for Corn-Ground with an Ear of Corn : Thoſe, with a Man's Head for Poll-money. I have thought (ſays he) that in old Time there was a certain ſort of Money coined on purpoſe for this uſe ; ſeeing in Scripture it is called *Tribute-Money* : And I am the more confirmed in this Opinion, becauſe in ſome of the *Britiſh* Pieces, there is the Mint-Maſter ſtamping the Money, with *Taſcia*, which among the *Britons* ſignifies a Tribute-Penny : But he admits they afterwards came into common uſe, and gueſſes them to have been ſtamped by the *Britiſh* Kings, as they have ſtamped on them their Effigies and Titles.

*Speed* tells us<sup>a</sup>, *Cunobeline*, to make his Eſtate more reſpected, cauſed his own Image to be ſtamped upon his Coins, after the Manner of the *Romans*, who had new-

<sup>a</sup> Hiſtory of England, p. 53.

ly taken up that Fashion, *Julius Cæsar* being the first who had his own Stamp on the *Roman* Coins. This *Cunobeline* flourished under *Augustus* and *Tiberius*, lived some Time at *Rome*, and probably might bring from thence some of the *Roman* Customs; and, reigning a long Time, had both Occasion, and Opportunity, to coin more Money than any other, which is the Reason that we find so many of his Coins, and so few others. Some of these are coined at *Maldon*, his chief Place of Residence, having his Head on one Side, and upon the Reverse the Figure of a Man stamping Money, which looks like some Improvement. Hence the Word *Coyne*<sup>a</sup> has been supposed to be an Abstract of *Coynobeline*, and not of *Cunæus*, which had no Relation to a Mint, or coining Money, tho' afterwards used to express the Stamps, or Coins.

But if the *Britons* had learned the Art of Coining from the *Romans*, they would, tho' never so inartificially, have endeavoured to imitate their Manner of Coining; (whereas, by their Form they are known to be *British*, no other Nation, says *Speed*<sup>b</sup>, stamping the like, except some few among

<sup>a</sup> Eng. Hist. lib. p. 36. <sup>b</sup> Speed's Hist. of Eng. p. 25.

the *Grecians* :) And <sup>a</sup> instead of unintelligible Characters, as some have, we should have had *Roman* Letters, such as by some Coins of *Cassibelan* and *Cunobeline*, we find they made use of after their Conquest. The Metal of which they are made, is likewise another Proof of their Antiquity; the Gold <sup>b</sup>, for the most Part, being mixt Metal, or rather Native Electrum, some of Silver, others of Brass, Copper, or Iron blanch'd over. From all which Circumstances, it is more than probable, this Sort of Money was in Use before the *Roman* Conquest. And why might they not, in this, be supposed to have imitated the *Phœnicians*, who were the first that traded hither, as well as they did, afterwards, their Conquerors, the *Romans*? For that this Island was known to the *Greeks* much earlier than Mr. *Camden* is sometimes willing to allow, is evident from a remarkable Passage in *Athenæus* <sup>c</sup>, where he assures us, that the Timber employed in building the famous Ship, called *Navis Alexandrina*, and launched by *Archimedes*, particularly

<sup>a</sup> Britannia in Wales, Vol. 2. p. 774. <sup>b</sup> Walker's Notes upon British Coins in Camden's Britan. p. 114.

<sup>c</sup> Magna Britannia, 4to, Lond. 1720, Vol. 1. Introduct. P. 5.



the great Tree for the Main-mast, was conveyed out of *Britain* to *Syracuse*, by *Phileas*, a noted Mechanick of *Tauromenium*. In short, if these are not Coins of the *Britons*, it may be asked, Whose are they? For they were coined here, or brought in by the *Phœnicians*, the *Greeks*, or some other trading Nation, which no Man has yet pretended to shew. But, at the same Time, upon the Testimony of *Cæsar*, it is probable, the *Britons* might likewise have their primitive Brasses and Iron Money amongst them, especially in the Inland Parts of the Island, not enriched, or improved by Trade, the other being coined by their greatest Princes, as a Mark of their Wealth and Grandeur.

When the *Romans* had extinguished the Kings here<sup>a</sup>, they suppressed the *British* Coins, and brought in their own as a Proof of their Conquest. These were current here, about five hundred Years, from the Time of *Claudius*, unto *Valentinian* the Younger, and were coined either at *Rome*, *Lions*, or *Triers*; but *Constantine* erected a Mint at *London*, and a Treasurer of the Mint, called *Præpositus Thesaurorum Au-*

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Remains, p. 232.

*gustensium*, *London* being called *Augusta* in the declining State of the Empire. We have a great many of these Coins of *Constantine*, which prove there was a Mint at *London* in his Time, properly<sup>a</sup> at the Request of *Helena* his Wife, who likewise persuaded her Son *Constantine* to wall the Metropolis of this her native Country.

The *Roman* Empire in *Britain* expired in the four hundred and seventy-sixth Year from *Cæsar's* Landing, in the Reign of *Valentinian* the Third; after this, few of the Coins of the succeeding Emperors are to be found in these Parts. But it seems probable, says *Camden*<sup>b</sup>, their Coins were still current here a long Time; for there never as yet, have been any Coins found of *Vortiger*, *Vortimer*, *Aurelius-Ambrosius*, *Arthur*, and others, who lived in those Times. As for the *Britons*, or *Welch*, says he, whatever *Jura Majestatis* their Princes had, I cannot understand that they ever had any Coins of their own; for no Learned of that Nation have at any Time seen any found in *Wales*, or elsewhere.

Next to the *Romans* succeeded the *Saxons*, who came into *Britain* about the Year

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby's Topography of Leeds, Fol. Lond. 1715, p. 337.    <sup>b</sup> Remains, p. 235.



of our Lord 449. Their Coins <sup>a</sup> were not unlike those of the first Race of the Kings of the *Franks*, who settled in *France* near the Time that the *Saxons* invaded *England*: Both Nations seem to have had the same Language and Customs, and to have imitated each other, as in other Things, so in their Coins, both in Figure, Weight, and Manner of Stamping; but in this they differed, that the *Franks* used more Variety, and frequent Changes, both of Allay, Weight, and Value in their Coins, and their Princes made thereof great Advantage, to the Prejudice of their Subjects; whereas this Nation has very seldom practised it, then, or since, for which, even the *French* Writers cannot help applauding us.

Their Silver Coins were all Pennies, of different Sizes, as broad as our Groats and Six-pences at this Day, and made thin, to prevent falsifying, having on one Side the King's Head, and sometimes his Name only, and on the other the Name of the Mint-Master, or Governor, or Name of the Place where coined: Sometimes, instead thereof, a Monogram, a Scrawl, or other poor De-

<sup>a</sup> Walker's Notes upon Saxon Coins in Camden's *Britannia*, p. 175.

vice; or (when Christianity prevailed) a Cross: But that the Reverse of their Coins was for the most Part quarterly divided<sup>a</sup>, for the Conveniency of breaking them into Half-pence and Farthings, is not true, for there are but few so divided: Nor was there any Need for this Practice, since it appears by the *Saxon* Gospels<sup>b</sup>, that they had Half-pence and Farthings, which, perhaps, were of a baser Matter. They had Copper Styca's also<sup>c</sup>, smaller than the Penny, having the King's Name on one Side, and Coiner's on the other, eight of which made a Penny, (as the *Liards de France*), and served them for ordinary Change: Of these<sup>d</sup>, a vast Quantity was found at *Rippon*, in the Year 1695, before which we had much fewer of Brasses than Silver.

As to Gold Money, they had none of their own, but they had Foreign Gold Coins, called in *Latin* *Bizantini*<sup>e</sup>, as being coined at *Constantinople*, sometime called *Bizantium*; for *Dunstan*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, purchased *Hendon* in *Middlesex*, for two hundred Byzantines. But all Byzants were not coined at *Bizantium*; for

<sup>a</sup> Britannia, p. 177.

<sup>b</sup> English Hist. lib.

p. 44.

<sup>c</sup> Camden's Tables.

<sup>d</sup> Britannia, p. 203.

<sup>e</sup> Cam-

den's Remains, ch. Money.

before the *Turks* possessed that City, they had *Scarrazin* Bezants, as *Menestrier*<sup>a</sup> proves from several authentick Writers, and that they were the common Money of the *East*. Afterwards they became current all over *Europe*, and from this general Use, the Word *Bezant* was applied to all Sorts of Gold Money, tho' not coined at *Constantinople*, (as *Florin* was afterwards) for we do not find the Bezant of any certain Value, but varying in different Places; some make their Value to have been a Ducat<sup>b</sup>, or a Florin<sup>c</sup> and Half. The Bezants offered by *Henry* the Second of *France* at his Coronation, were<sup>d</sup> about the Value of a double Ducat a-piece. *St. Louis* of *France* was redeemed for two hundred thousand Bezants, which were then valued<sup>e</sup> at one hundred thousand Livres; and a Piece of Gold valued at fifteen Pounds, offered by our Kings upon high Festival Days, is called a *Bezantine*, for no other Reason, but because Pieces of that Denomination were anciently offered by them, as being the only Gold Coin then in Use: And in this sense

<sup>a</sup> Origine de Annoiries, 8vo, Paris, 1679, p. 482.

<sup>b</sup> Kennet's Paroch. Antiq.      <sup>c</sup> Bibl. Cotton. Nero, cap.

xi. 11.      <sup>d</sup> Menestrier, ib. p. 482.      <sup>e</sup> Camd. Remains, ch. Money, 236. Jonocille in Life of St. Louis, cap. 42.



it is, that in Blazoning of Arms, a Piece of Gold Money is called a *Bezant*.

The *Saxon Scilling*, or *Shilling* <sup>a</sup> was purely nominal, as Marks and Nobles afterwards. In that Age, and succeeding Times, all Money-Accounts passed by the Name of *Pence*, *Shillings*, *Pounds*, and *Mancuses*; five of these Pennies made their Shilling, in our Money, one Shilling and Three-pence; Forty-eight of those Shillings their Pound, with us three Pounds; the *Manca*, *Mancusa*, or *Marca* of Silver, the fifth Part of an Ounce, about our Shilling; the *Manca* of Gold their Thirty-pence, our seven Shillings and Six-pence. There was likewise a *Thrisma*; which some have thought three Shillings, others the third Part of a Shilling; but Bishop *Nicolson* <sup>b</sup>, from King *Athelstan*'s Laws, makes the *Thrisma* the same with their *Peningna*, *Penny*, or *Sceat*.

The Privileges of Coining the *Saxon* Kings communicated to their Subjects; for, according to *Stow* <sup>c</sup>, *Athelstan* made seven coining Mints at *Canterbury*, four for the King, two for the Archbishop, and one

<sup>a</sup> Camd. Remains, p. 234. <sup>b</sup> English Hist. Library, p. 44. <sup>c</sup> Annals, p. 82. Camd. Remains, ch. Money.

for the Abbot: At *Rocheſter* three, two for the King, and one for the Biſhop: Beſides theſe, at *London* eight, in *Wincheſter* fix, in *Lewis* two, in *Haſtings* two, in *Chicheſter* one, in *Hampton* two, in *Wareham* two, in *Exeter* two, in *Shaſteſbury* two, and in every good Town one Coiner; at which Time falſe Coiners loſt their Hands by Law. Though by this it appears there were other Mints than the King's, yet it ſeems they had the Stamp given them to coin with, as incident to that Privilege. So King *Edward the Confefſor*, confirming the Liberties of *St. Edmund*<sup>a</sup> (*St. Edmundſbury*), gave to Abbot *Baldwin* a Stamp, and Authority to have an Exchange, or Mint, and to coin in his Monastery. The Coins now extant prove this, and ſhew there were very few conſiderable Towns without a Mint; for beſides thoſe particularly mentioned in *Athelſtan's* Law, there are Coins of *Lincoln*, *Exeter*, *Norwich*, *Eveſham*, *York*, *Glouceſter*, *Ipfwich*, *Derby*, *Briſtol*, *Shrewſbury*, *Worceſter*, *Walingford*, *Thetford*, and others.

The *Danes*<sup>b</sup>, whiſt they governed here, uſed the *Saxon*-like Penny, though they reckoned by Ores, *per Oras*, which, 'tis

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Annals, p. 93. <sup>b</sup> Camden's Britannia, p. 177.



## INTRODUCTION.

thought, was not the Name of any Coin, but used only in accounting. Twenty Ore were rateable at two Marks of Silver.

The *Norman* Kings continued to coin the same Sort of Money as their Predecessors the *Saxons*, only a little lighter; for some of the *Saxon* Pennies weigh above a Penny-weight, whereas few of these reach twenty-two Grains.

Computation was made by Marks and half Marks, Ounces and half Ounces of Gold; and Silver, in Pounds, Marks, half Marks, Shillings, and Pence. The Mark of Gold was equal to an hundred and twenty Shillings of Silver, the Ounce of Gold equal to fifteen Shillings, the Pound of Silver twenty Shillings, the Mark thirteen Shillings and four Pence, the Shilling twelve Pence, a Penny a Penny-weight, or the twentieth Part of an Ounce, equal to our Three-pence; so that a Pound of Silver was a Pound both in Weight and in Tale; and till the Time of *Edward* the First, the *English* Pennies were to have the same Weight, though, as I have observed, they usually fall short two Grains.

All great Payments were made by Weight; so the *Conqueror* allowed *Edgar*  
*Atheling*

*Atbeling* <sup>a</sup>, a Pound Weight of Silver every Day, which Sir *John Haward* calls twenty Shillings : So Duke *Robert* <sup>b</sup> mortgaged his Dutchy of *Normandy* to his Brother *Rufus*, for six thousand six hundred and sixty-six Pounds of Silver : But Purveyances <sup>c</sup> were changed into Money, and were collected by the Sheriff in the following Proportions.

Bread for an hundred Men, one Shilling.

One Pasture-fed Ox, one Shilling.

A Ram or a Sheep, four Pence.

Provender for twenty Horses, four Pence.

These being gathered by the Collectors, were paid in gross into the Exchequer by Weight ; and by Reason of the Lightness or Badness of the Money, it was ordained <sup>d</sup>, that the *Fermes* of Manors should be paid *ad Scalam*, by paying Sixpence above the Pound, or twenty Shillings, at first thought sufficient to make good the Weight ; but the Money afterwards growing worse, Payments were ordered not only to be made *ad Scalam*, but also *ad Pensum*, which was to make good the Deficiency of Weight, by paying as much Money for a Pound *Ster-*

<sup>a</sup> Speed's Hist. England, p. 426. <sup>b</sup> Daniel's Hist. Eng. in Kennet, p. 106. Notes. <sup>c</sup> English Hist. lib. p. 251. Liber Niger Scaccarii, in Chronicon Preciosum, 69.

<sup>d</sup> Lownd's Essay, p. 4.

*ling*, as weighed twelve Ounces : And because<sup>a</sup> the Money might answer *Numero et Pondere*, and nevertheless be mixed with Copper or Brass, they had a Method of assaying the Money<sup>b</sup>, called the Trial by Combustion, which was in Use under *Henry* the First, as appears by *Domesday-Book* ; and in the Reign of *Henry* the Second, when the Bishop of *Salisbury* was Treasurer, an Officer was constituted, called *Miles Argentarius*, or Assay-Master, to try the Money, little or nothing differing from the present Method of assaying Silver for its *Fineness*; and probably from this Regulation we may owe the first Introduction of *Sterling*, or Standard amongst us ; which, as it cannot certainly be fix'd to any particular Reign, I shall therefore consider in this Place. The Name of *Sterling*, or *Easterling*<sup>c</sup>, is generally allowed to be derived from the *Germans* in the Neighbourhood of *Denmark*, who, from their Eastern Situation, had the Name of *Easterlings*, and being the best Refiners, were called in to perfect our *English* Money ; in old Deeds, called *Nummi Easterlingi*, sometimes used to

<sup>a</sup> Lownd's Essay, p. 5.    <sup>b</sup> Spelman's Glossary Verb. Libræ, Camden's Remains, ch. Money.    <sup>c</sup> Camden's Remains, Spelman.



signify a Penny, and sometimes the Standard, as *Probæ monetæ*, among the *Civilians*, and *Money du Roy* in *France*: So *Sterling* and Standard became synonymous Terms, and has ever since been used to denote the certain Proportion or Degree of *Fineness* in Bullion or Coin. But our Antiquaries are not so well agreed when *Sterling* was first introduced amongst us. The most common Opinion is <sup>a</sup>, that King *John* first called in the *Easterlings*, and coined *Sterling* Money: Others <sup>b</sup> ascribe it to *Richard* the First, and some <sup>c</sup> to *Henry* the Second.

That King *John* was the first of our Kings who called in the *Easterlings*, to reduce the Silver to its due *Fineness*, and coined *Sterling* Money, I see little Reason to support. *Stow* informs us <sup>d</sup> that he coined Money in *Ireland*, in the Year 1210, according unto the Weight of English Money; and another Writer, that King *John* <sup>e</sup> made the Standard of the *Irish* Money equal to the English, at the same Time that he published

<sup>a</sup> Camden's *Britannia*, fol. Lond. 1722. vol. 2. p. 1225. Bishop Nicholson's *Irish Historical Library*, 8vo. Dublin, 1724, p. 159. <sup>b</sup> Camden's *Remains*, ch. of Money.

<sup>c</sup> *Stow's Survey of London*, vol. 1. lib. 1. p. 83. *Coke's Institutes*, part 2d. p. 575. <sup>d</sup> *Annals*, p. 158. <sup>e</sup> Preface to *Davis's Reports in Irish. Hist. lib.* p. 159.

the Laws of *England*, and required the Execution of them in his new erected Counties of that Kingdom; *Oras Daniel*<sup>a</sup> has it, *caused English Money to be coined there*, and to be of equal Value with that of this Kingdom, and current alike in both. By this King *John* was undoubtedly the first that coined *Sterling* Money in *Ireland*; but as it does not appear he ever coined any Money in *England*, (of which certainly we should have had some remaining, if the Improvement had begun there) the *English* standard, or Money here referred to, must have been previous to this Reign; and very unlikely is it, that this Refinement should begin in *Ireland*; besides, that the Use of the Word *Sterling* was more ancient amongst us.

*Camden*, in his *Remains*<sup>b</sup>, ascribes the Introduction of *Sterling* Money to *Richard* the First. In his Time, says he, *Easterling* Money began to be of especial Request in *England* for the Purity thereof, and shortly after, some of that Country, skilful in Mint-Matters, and Allaies, were sent for into this Realm, to bring the Coin to Perfection. But considering King *Richard* is

<sup>a</sup> Hist. of England.

<sup>b</sup> Chap. Money.



represented as a Corrupter<sup>a</sup>, rather than a Refiner, of the *English* Coin; that though he reigned near ten Years, he was but eight Months<sup>b</sup> of that Time in his Kingdom, and that the Wealth of the Nation was so exhausted, by his Exactions for the Holy War, they were forced to sell the Church-Plate to pay his Ransom, it is hardly probable he should set about reforming the Standard, when there was no Money to coin; and except a Piece with two Faces ascribed to him, we have none of his Money extant.

It is said<sup>c</sup> indeed, that the hundred thousand Pounds to be paid for King *Richard's* Ransom, was coined into Money: But besides, that we had no larger Money at that Time than Pennies, by the Agreement<sup>d</sup>, the Emperor was to receive one hundred and fifty thousand Marks of pure Silver, of *Cologne* Weight. By Coining therefore, was probably meant Refining, and for this Purpose some of these *Easterlings*, perhaps, were sent for; though the Word *Easterling*, as a known and approved Standard, occurs from the Beginning of this

<sup>a</sup> Eveling's Numismata, p. 233.    <sup>b</sup> Rapin, p. 257.

<sup>c</sup> Stow's Annals, p. 161.

<sup>d</sup> Daniel's Hist. of England, fol. Lond. 1621, p. 103.

Reign: So in his first Year<sup>a</sup>, *Anno* 1189, the King sold the Castles of *Berwick* and *Rokesburgh* to the *Scottish* King, for the sum of ten thousand Marks *Esterling*; and *Anno* 1195<sup>b</sup>, *Robert* Earl of *Leicester* offered to the King of *France* for his Ransom, one thousand Marks *Sterling*.

But the Word *Sterling*, denoting the Degree of Fineness or Goodness, is much more ancient, though not known in the Conqueror's Time, in regard there is no mention<sup>c</sup> thereof in *Libro Judiciario*, or the *Domesday-Book*; but about that Time, and afterwards in the Reign of *Henry* the First<sup>d</sup>, we meet with *Nummi Sterilenses* for the latter *Sterling*, and under *Henry* the Second it frequently occurs.

There is an Ordinance<sup>e</sup> of *Henry* the Second for *Normandy*, *Anno* 1158, relating to the Exchange of Money,—*Et illi qui debent argentum Domino Regi, reddant pro marca, tredecim solidos, & quatuor denarios sterlingorum*.

According to *Hector Boetius*, the Ransom

<sup>a</sup> Roger Hovedon, in *Stow*, p. 159.      <sup>b</sup> *Ib.* p. 162.

<sup>c</sup> Lowndes's Essay, p. 16.      <sup>d</sup> Spelman Verb. *Esterlingus*,

G. Somner, &c.      <sup>e</sup> Leblanc. *Traité de Monoyes de France*, 4to, Amsterdam, 1692, p. 153.

of <sup>a</sup> *William King of Scotland, Anno 1175*, was settled at an hundred thousand Pounds Sterling, the one half in present Coin.

And *Anno 1184<sup>b</sup>, 30 H. 2. Ordinatio Job. Reg. Franc. & Hen. 2. R. Angliæ, in subsid. Ter. Sanctæ, in Terra regis Angliæ cismarina duo denarios Andagevensensis monetæ, & in Anglia unus sterlingus persolvetur.*

These Instances are sufficient to shew the use of the Word *Sterling*, and since we know that *Henry the Second* coined a great deal of Money, and regulated the Standard by a *Miles Argentarius*, or Assay-Master, where can we fix the Original of our Sterling more properly? However that be, it is certain from this time we constantly meet with *Sterling*, but without specifying the certain Degree of Fineness, till the third of *Edward the First*; whence probably it is that this King is supposed to be the first who established a Standard for the Coin, which is said to have been prescribed in this Manner<sup>c</sup>, by *Gregory Rockley*, Mayor of *London*, and Master of the Mint. That in a Pound of Money containing twelve Ounces, there should be eleven

<sup>a</sup> Speed's Hist. of England, p. 504. <sup>b</sup> Spelman Verb. Esterlingus. <sup>c</sup> Ledger-book of St. Edmundsbury, Camd. Remains, ch. Money.

Ounces two Pence Farthing fine Silver, and seventeen Pence Halfpenny Farthing Allay. The said Pound to weigh twenty Shillings and three Pence in Account, each Ounce twenty Pence, and every Penny-weight twenty-four Grains and a Half. And the twenty-eighth of the same King<sup>a</sup>, an indented Trial-Piece of the Goodness of old Sterling was lodged in the Exchequer, and every Pound weight of such Silver, was to be shorn at twenty Shillings and three Pence. But by the Statute *de Moneta*, in his twentieth Year, the Pound of new Money was to weigh twenty Shillings. By another Law<sup>b</sup> it was likewise ordained, that no Goldsmith should make any Thing of Gold or Silver, except it was of true Allay, *viz.* Gold of a certain Touch, and Silver of the Sterling Allay, or better; and none to work worse than the Silver in Money; so that here we have Sterling established by Law as the Standard both in Coin and Plate.

After *Edward* the First, there is no Indenture of the Mint, whereby certainly to judge of the Proportion of the Standard, till the eighteenth of *Edward* the Third,

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 34.

<sup>b</sup> Stat. 28 E. 1. cap. 20.

when,



when, by Indenture<sup>a</sup>, the Standard for the Gold Coin was the old Standard or Sterling, of twenty-three Car. three Grains and a Half fine, and Half a Grain Allay; which Allay, (as the *Red-book* says) might be of Silver or Copper; and the Reason of this Allay of a base Metal, was to augment the Weight of the Silver or Gold, so much as to counter-vail the Change of Coinage, and to make it the more fusile; the Pound, which was twelve Ounces, was divided into twenty-four Carrats, or half Ounces, and every Carrat into four Grains of Gold, each Grain being equal to two Penny-weights and a Half, or sixty common Grains. The Silver was of the old Sterling, of eleven Ounces two Penny-weight fine Silver, and eighteen Penny-weight Allay. To this ancient Sterling, both for Gold and Silver, the Statute<sup>b</sup> of the ninth and twenty-fifth of *Edward* the Third refer; and by the ninth<sup>c</sup> of *Henry* the Fifth, all the Money of Gold and Silver to be made at the *Tower*, or at *Chalice*, or elsewhere in the Realm of *England*, by Authority Royal, was to be made of as good

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 18, 20.    <sup>b</sup> 9 E. 3. St. 2. cap. 2, 3. St. 25 E 3. St. 5. ch. 13.    <sup>c</sup> 9 H. 5. St. 2. ch. 6. Raftal, 36, 37.



Allay and Weight, 'as it was then made at the *Tower*, which, by the Indenture, was of the same old Standard: And this was constantly used in the following Reigns, till King *Henry* the Eighth debased it: But Queen *Elizabeth* restored it to its ancient Purity; as it has ever since continued in the Coin. A finer Standard<sup>a</sup> was afterwards introduced for Plate, of eleven Ounces ten Penny-weight fine, in every Pound Troy, called the *New Sterling*; but by the sixth of King *George* the First, the old Standard was restored.

The same Corrupter of Money that debased the Silver, likewise debased the Gold, which was never after fully restored to its Purity; for, though Gold Money was coined in every succeeding Reign of the same old Standard, till the milled Money took place; yet other Money was likewise coined, of the Fineness of twenty-two Carrats only, called *Crown-Gold*, which was made the Standard of the Gold milled Money, and has continued in use ever since.

Before we quit this Subject, it may be necessary to say something of the Pound by which the Value of Money is estimated,

<sup>a</sup> 8 Will. 3. ch. 1. sect. 9.

and the Standard ascertained. Our Pound consisted of twelve Ounces, as the *Roman* did, which was anciently used in *France*<sup>a</sup> for weighing of Gold and Silver ; with us it was called the Pound Troy, but by no Means so early as Mr. *Lownds* uses it, and seldom or never applied to the Coin. This Pound contained twelve Ounces, every Ounce twenty Penny-weights, and every Penny weight thirty-two Grains of Wheat; for so the Statute of *Henry* the Third<sup>b</sup> ordains, which seems to be no new Law, but rather an Exemplification, or Confirmation of an old one : And the same was afterwards confirmed<sup>c</sup> in the thirty-first of *Edward* the First, and twenty-fifth of *Edward* the Third, as it has continued ever since. The first Mention I find of the Pound Troy, or Troy-weight, is for Goldsmiths, in the second of *Henry* the Fifth ; and what this meant is explained in the Statute for Weight and Measures, the twelfth of *Henry* the seventh, which enacts<sup>d</sup>, that every Pound shall contain twelve Ounces Troy Weight, every Ounce two Sterlings, and every Sterling thirty-two Corns of Wheat, according to

<sup>a</sup> Leblanc. p. 17.      <sup>b</sup> 5 H. 3. sect. 3.      <sup>c</sup> 22 E. 3. Stat. 5. cap. 13.      <sup>d</sup> 12 H. 7. cap. 5.

the old Laws of the Land : But in the Indentures of the Mint, it usually runs, according to the King's Weight, or the *Tower* Weight.

From whence we have the Word *Troy*, is uncertain, it is commonly thought to come from *Troyes* in *France* ; but *Fleta*<sup>a</sup> calls it *Trone* Weight, and says, that *Trona* is a Beam to weigh with : So *Tronagium* was a Toll for weighing Wool, and *Tronator* the Officer who weighed it. As there was no Need to distinguish the Pound by the Addition of *Troy*, whilst there was but one Kind of Weight in Use, it no doubt received this Addition, to distinguish it from the Merchants Pound, which *Fleta* says<sup>b</sup>, was fifteen Ounces. And this agrees with an old Account in our Statute-books<sup>c</sup>, (but without Date) where it is said the Pound of Pence, Spices, Confections, and Electuaries, consisteth in the Weight of twenty Shillings, but the Pound of all other Things weigheth twenty-five Shillings : And probably this was (though one Ounce less) the same with what was afterward called *Avoirdupois*. This *Avoirdupois* originally signi-

<sup>a</sup> Lib. 2. cap. 12, See Blount's Law-Dict. Weights.

<sup>b</sup> Ib. *Fleta*, lib. 2. cap. 12. <sup>c</sup> *Rastal's* Weights and Measures, Numb. 8.



fied no more than Goods in gros, or by wholesale, which the Traders use to weigh by the Auncel<sup>a</sup>, called a touching Weight; a fallacious kind of Balance, which being subject to Deceit, was forbid by Statute: For by the twenty-fifth Article of *Magna Charta*, enforced by many subsequent Statutes down to the sixteenth of *Charles the First*<sup>b</sup>, there was to be but one Weight throughout *England*, which was the Pound of twelve Ounces: But by those very Laws it appears not to have been observed, the Force of Custom prevailed; and because Goods, Avoirdupois, were weighed by this Merchants Weight of fifteen, and afterwards sixteen Ounces, the Weight at length took its Denomination from the Goods to be weighed, to distinguish it from the Pound of twelve Ounces, which, *vice versa*, had the Name of *Troy*, to distinguish it from *Avoirdupois*. When the Pound Avoirdupois came into use, is uncertain; but in the twenty-fourth of *Henry the Eighth*<sup>c</sup>, Meat was ordered to be sold by Weight Avoirdupois. Though

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 9 E. 3. cap. 1. 25 E. 3. St. 4. ch. 2. Stat 27. E. 3. sect. 2. cap. 10. and others 2. 11 and 16 R. 2. St. 9. H. 6. cap. 8. <sup>b</sup> 16 Car. 1. cap. 10. sect. 2. <sup>c</sup> 24 H. 8. c. 3.


*Rastal*, to whom our modern Statute-Books refer, has nothing of this Avoirdupois, but only that an Act was made for Meat to be sold by Weight ; nor does it occur afterwards in our Law (if I am not mistaken), till the seventeenth of *Charles* the Second, which enacts, That *Scotch* Coal shall be an hundred and twelve Pounds Avoirdupois to the Hundred. But, by another statute<sup>a</sup> in the same Reign, the Pound of sixteen Ounces is mentioned, without the Addition of Avoirdupois, which seems to have grown into use by Custom, contrary to Law.

<sup>a</sup> 13 and 14 Car. 2. cap. 26. sect. 2.



WILLIAM





*WILLIAM* I. called the CONQUEROR,  
A. D. 1066.

AND

*WILLIAM* II. surnamed RUFUS,  
A. D. 1087.

THERE seems to have been a great <sup>Will. I.</sup> deal of Money coined by the *Conqueror*, for <sup>and</sup> he is said<sup>a</sup> to have left at his death sixty <sup>Will. II.</sup> thousand pounds in Money (a prodigious sum in those days), besides jewels, gold, and plate: nevertheless, Mr. *Thoresby* tells us<sup>b</sup>, that his utmost diligence could procure but one of either Kings, till *anno* 170 $\frac{3}{4}$ , that a nest of them was found at *York*, after a fire, in digging up the foundation for a new edifice, when two hundred and fifty were found in a small oak box, the greater part of one of the *Williams*.

<sup>a</sup> Daniel's Hist. of England, in Kennet, fol. Lond. 1719, Notes.    <sup>b</sup> Thoresby's Musæum, p. 349.

Will. I. But since that time, by the industry of our  
 and  
 Will. II. *English* antiquaries, they are become more  
 plenty, and there appears a greater variety  
 than was ever thought of. This has  
 made it more difficult than before, to place  
 them properly, there being no certain rule  
 to distinguish the father's from the son's;  
 for it is generally agreed they have no  
 numerals, and that what has been taken  
 for such, are only imperfect letters. There  
 are indeed two sorts, one with the full  
 face, and another with the side face : the  
 most probable opinion seems to be, that  
 the former <sup>a</sup> are the *Conqueror's*, because  
 they are most plenty, for he reigned nigh  
 as long again as his son *Rufus*, and had  
 greater occasions for Money ; and there are  
 some of this sort with the sword and two  
 sceptres, which are undoubtedly his. Of  
 those with the full face, some have the  
 head terminated by the inner circle, others  
 a larger bust, extending to the edge of the  
 Coin, if that makes any difference. So  
 those with the side face, are some looking  
 to the right, others to the left ; and these  
 half faces having been found with *Harold's*,  
 have led some to think them the *Con-*

<sup>a</sup> Museum, p. 349.

*queror*'s. In this case, we must admit both Will. I. and Will. II. sorts of the *Conqueror*, if not of *Rufus*, which makes the difficulty still greater to resolve; we must therefore leave it as we find it, for I am not willing to reject a probable opinion, without substituting a better in the room of it.

Both father and son are circumscribed PILLEM, PILEMV, or PILLEMVS, REX, REXA, AN, ANGLO, or ANGLOR; though the *Conqueror*, on his great seal<sup>a</sup>, writes himself WILLELMVS, and *Rufus* WILIELMVS, imitating the *Confessor*, who used P (the *Saxon* w) upon his Coins, though not upon his seal. The head or bust is full faced, with a beard, though *William* of *Malmesbury* (and *Stow*, and others from him) pronounce him beardless. But however the fashion was in *Normandy*, he is always represented upon his *English* Money with a beard. On some Coins the bust terminates at the inner circle, but most commonly extends to the edge of the Coin. The head is crowned, but different from their great seals, where the *Conqueror*'s (something like the *Confessor*'s) is rather a helmet with

<sup>a</sup> See Speed's Hist. of England, and Sandford's Genealogical History.

Will. I. for the conveniency of breaking the Penny  
 and  
 Will. II. into halves and quarters, is disproved by  
 { the Coins now extant, whereon the crosses  
 generally terminate at the inner circle, and  
 instead of being impressed, are imbossed,  
 which prevents their being broken equally :  
 nor is there any thing like it, till *Henry*  
 the Third made a double cross upon his  
 Penny, who likewise coined smaller pieces.  
 The cross upon the Money was the com-  
 mon badge of christianity, which had  
 been used ever since the conversion of the  
*Saxons*, and was practised by all christian  
 Princes. As the *Saxons* had small Monies,  
 why might not the two first *Williams* have  
 had the same ? though none have come to  
 our knowledge, for very few remain of our  
 latter Kings', whom we know coined great  
 quantities of them.

The cross upon the reverse of these  
 Pennies is circumscribed with the name of  
 the mint-master, and place of coinage,  
 as *London*, *Canterbury*, EO, or EOFE, *York*;  
 LOYNC, *Lancaster*; *Exeter*, *Lin-*  
*coln*, PINC, *Winchester*; DEOTFOVRD,  
*Thetford*, *Bristol*, *Oxford*, *Gloucester*,  
 RVFFA, *Rockester*, &c. The most remark-  
 able of these I shall describe particularly,  
 placing



placing them, or misplacing them, by conjecture. Will. I.  
and  
Will. II.

The first has the King's head full faced and crowned, the bust extending to the edge of the Coin, holding a naked sword erect in his right hand, PILLEM REX. 2 S. Pl. I.  
Nº 1. Reverse, within a compartment or rose of four leaves, a cross patè, with a large pellet in the centre, and four lesser in the quarters, at the points of the rose. This we may place with pretty good assurance to the *Conqueror*.

Another, PILLEM REX ANGLOR, his bust terminating at the inner circle, holding a sceptre in his right hand, surmounted with a cross patè, or holy cross, as we see upon the orb on his great seal, and also upon the *Confessor's* Money, and another sceptre in his left hand, with three pellets, or pearls, crosswise at the point; both which sceptres may be seen upon the *Saxon* Coins. Reverse, a cross with four sceptres bottone or pomette in the quarters, in form of an escarbuncle. As *Rufus* has no pretence to two sceptres, which his father had, this is no doubt to be ascribed to the *Conqueror*. 1 S. Pl. I.  
Nº 1.

Will. I. PILLEMV REX. The larger bust; under  
 and  
 Will. II. a canopy supported by two pillars, but  
 without sword or sceptre. This is like-  
 2 S. Pl. I.  
 N° 3. wise thought to be the *Conqueror's*.

The most common sort have the larger bust, extending to the edge of the Coin, and a star, or mullet, of six points, on either side of the head, PILLEM REX. Reverse a cross of double lines, with something like a nail in each quarter, which are thought to allude to the cross and nails of our Saviour; the heads of the nails, where they are perfect, appear like rings, which perhaps was a particular sort used for such purposes. On the centre of the cross, an annulet.

2 S. Pl. I.  
 N° 2. PILLEM REX. This has the larger bust, with a long thin face, very different from the former. In the King's right hand a sceptre *fleuri*, and on his left side a flower, such a one as we see upon *Rufus's* great seal. The reverse has a cross *fleuri*, with an ornament in the quarters like leaves.

1 S. Pl. I.  
 N° 3. PILLEM REX AN. having the smaller bust, with a star, or mullet, of six points, on each side the head. Reverse, a square figure, with a pellet at each point, surmounted

mounted by a cross bottone. This *Speed* Will. I. and others, in conformity to him, place <sup>and</sup> Will. II. to *Rufus*.

Another has an annulet on each side of the head instead of the mullet. Reverse, the cross, with three pellets in triangle, and the nails in the quarters.

Another ascribed to *Rufus*, PILLELM <sup>2 S. Pl. I.</sup> REX, holding with his right hand, on the <sup>Nº 4.</sup> left side, a scepter of an uncommon length, and particular form, with a cross patè on the top.

Those with the side-face and sceptre, <sup>2 S. Pl. I.</sup> are some looking to the right, others to <sup>Nº 5.</sup> the left, PILLEMV REX. On some of these the crown appears to be arched, the arches being composed of pearls, and the sceptre having three pearls in cross at the point. Some have likewise the figure I, so very distinct, upon so fair a Coin, that it cannot be suspected to be an imperfect letter, or a slip of the dye, though perhaps an error or fancy of the graver. Had it been designed as a numeral, to distinguish the *Conqueror's* from *Rufus's* Coins, it would have been found upon all of them; whereas it is now only seen upon some few accidental pieces; nor was the number added

Will. I. ded to the name upon the Money, till three  
 and  
 Will. II. hundred years afterwards, except by *Henry*  
 the Third.

*Stow*<sup>a</sup> mentions Pennies of the *Conqueror*, inscribed LE REY WILAM, which some of our antiquaries think rather belong to *William* the First of *Scotland*: but why a King of *Scotland* should speak *French* upon his Money, rather than the *Conqueror*, who brought that language in use amongst us, I do not understand; especially, as, (if I am not mistaken) there is no instance of the like upon the *Scotch* Money. It is certainly more natural to the *Norman*, who perhaps coined these pieces in *Normandy*; and the more probable, because one which I have seen was beardless, which was the *Norman* fashion. Another sort is inscribed WILLELMVS REX, ascribed likewise to the *Scotch William*; but this, as well as the former, have the mint-master's name upon the reverse, which the *Scotch* Coins had not; and it is not very certain that *William* the First of *Scotland* coined any Money.

1 S. Pl. I. There is likewise a Penny of *Robert*, el-  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. dest son of the *Conqueror*, and after him

<sup>a</sup> Survey of London, 1720, lib. 1. p. 82.



Duke of *Normandy*, ROBERTVS.—The Prince on horseback, with a large sword in his hand, and a strange kind of ornament upon his head, which seems designed for mantling, or lambrequins, anciently worn upon the helmet, as well for ornament, as to keep off the sun. Reverse, a cross potent, with sceptres *fleuris* in the quarters; and in place of the inscription, flowers, crescents, &c.

These Pennies were the largest, and (if there were no smaller pieces) the only species of Money coined in these times, or long afterwards; for gold they had none of their own, though I have lately heard of a piece of gold of the *Conqueror*, exactly resembling the silver Penny. The novelty of this piece made it justly suspected, especially when being assayed, it was found no better than our present standard; though had it been of the old standard, it could have been esteemed no other than the fancy of the minter, to strike a piece of gold with the silver stamp, as we sometimes see in Shillings with the Guinea stamp, and Farthings in silver; for it is certain we had no gold Money coined in *England*, till *Edward* the Third.

The

Will. I. ded to the name upon the Money, till three  
 and  
 Will. II. hundred years afterwards, except by *Henry*  
 the Third.

*Stow*<sup>a</sup> mentions Pennies of the *Conqueror*, inscribed LE REY WILAM, which some of our antiquaries think rather belong to *William* the First of *Scotland*: but why a King of *Scotland* should speak *French* upon his Money, rather than the *Conqueror*, who brought that language in use amongst us, I do not understand; especially, as, (if I am not mistaken) there is no instance of the like upon the *Scotch* Money. It is certainly more natural to the *Norman*, who perhaps coined these pieces in *Normandy*; and the more probable, because one which I have seen was beardless, which was the *Norman* fashion. Another sort is inscribed WILLELMVS REX, ascribed likewise to the *Scotch William*; but this, as well as the former, have the mint-master's name upon the reverse, which the *Scotch* Coins had not; and it is not very certain that *William* the First of *Scotland* coined any Money.

1 S. Pl. I. There is likewise a Penny of *Robert*, el-  
 N<sup>o</sup> 2. dest son of the *Conqueror*, and after him

<sup>a</sup> Survey of London, 1720, lib. 1. p. 82.

Duke of *Normandy*, ROBERTVS.—The Prince on horseback, with a large sword in his hand, and a strange kind of ornament upon his head, which seems designed for mantling, or lambrequins, anciently worn upon the helmet, as well for ornament, as to keep off the sun. Reverse, a cross potent, with sceptres *fleuri* in the quarters; and in place of the inscription, flowers, crescents, &c. Will. I.  
and  
Will. II,

These Pennies were the largest, and (if there were no smaller pieces) the only species of Money coined in these times, or long afterwards; for gold they had none of their own, though I have lately heard of a piece of gold of the *Conqueror*, exactly resembling the silver Penny. The novelty of this piece made it justly suspected, especially when being assayed, it was found no better than our present standard; though had it been of the old standard, it could have been esteemed no other than the fancy of the minter, to strike a piece of gold with the silver stamp, as we sometimes see in Shillings with the Guinea stamp, and Farthings in silver; for it is certain we had no gold Money coined in *England*, till *Edward* the Third.

The

Will. I. The gold Money in use at this time  
 and  
 Will. II. was Bezants: For the Bishop of *Norwich*<sup>a</sup>,  
 { in the reign of *Edward* the Third, was  
 condemned to pay a Byzantine to the Ab-  
 bot of St. *Edmundsbury*, for encroaching  
 upon his liberty, as it was enacted by Par-  
 liament in the time of the *Conqueror*. They  
 likewise seem to have had Florins, though  
 they are said<sup>b</sup> not to have been coined till  
 the Year 1252, by the *Florentines*, when  
 they defeated the forces of *Siena* at Mount  
*Alcina*. But the History of *Normandy* tells  
 us<sup>c</sup>, the Duke, *anno* 1067, gave to those  
 who were sent to him from *Harold*, a  
 courser, a robe, and four florins of gold.

These florins<sup>d</sup> had on the one side a  
 large *fleur de lys*, and round it FLOREN-  
 TIA. On the other side the figure of  
 St. *John Baptist*, patron of the city of  
*Florence*, from whence the Money had its  
 name and original; though others<sup>e</sup> think  
 it was so called from the *flower de luce*,  
 which by allusion shews it to be *Floren-  
 tine*, as a rose did *Rhodian* Money. It  
 was of fine gold, eight to the ounce, and

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Remains, p. 236.    <sup>b</sup> Davenzati's Dis-  
 course.    <sup>c</sup> Lib. 6. ch. 54, p. 79, in Le Blanc, p. 147.  
<sup>d</sup> Le Blanc, 154, 194, 201, 204.    <sup>e</sup> Davenzati's Dis-  
 course, p. 12.

became



became celebrated all over *Europe*, so that there hardly was a christian Prince, but struck pieces of this sort. By this means the name of *Florin* was given to all gold Coin : but afterwards, being coined in different places, and of different values, the name of the place was added, by way of distinction, as Florins of *Florence*, Florins of *Venice*, Florins of *France*, which latter had FRANCIA, instead of *Florentia* ; but those of *Florence* retaining their purity, were universally esteemed in *France* as well as *England*, till our first gold Money was coined, which from them was called a *Florin*, or *Florence*.

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### HENRY I. A. D. 1100.

THE Penny of King *Henry* the First is said <sup>a</sup> to be of the same weight, fineness, form of face, cross, &c. as those of the *Conqueror*. But there are others, which exhibit his figure in different attitudes, with some variety, by which it appears they aimed at an improve-

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Survey of London, Strype's Edition, Book 1, p. 82.

Henry I. ment of the stamp in this reign. In some of these he appears with a crown composed of three *fleurs de lys*, without any rays intermixed, or pearls at the ears; and this sort of crown is upon his great seal, as it is likewise on that of *Henry* the Second.

One of these Pennies has his head full faced and crowned, like *Rufus*, with an annulet on each side the head, HENRICUS REX.

That in *Speed* has his head full faced, with crown and sceptre *fleuri*, HENRIC REX. Reverse, a compartment like a rose of four leaves, with five annulets in crosses, and in each a pellet.

2 S. Pl. I.  
N° 6, 7.

Another placed to this King has his side-face looking to the right, holding a sceptre *fleuri* in his hand, HENRICUS REX. Reverse, a square figure with a cross, like one ascribed to *Rufus*; but in this the points both of the figure and cross are *fleuri*.

1 S. Pl. I.  
N° 4.

There is another sort, whereon he is represented with his face a little inclined to the right, holding in his hand a broad sceptre, with a cross patè, and on his head, a crown with three *fleurs de lys*, HENRI, (or HENRIC) REX, or REX ANGL. Reverse,

verse, a cross patè, with four lesser in the Henry I.  
quarters.

Another, with the word PAX; on the reverse, within two double lines, and a couple of annulets above, and as many below, perhaps alluding to the peace he made with his elder brother, *Robert* Duke of *Normandy*, which secured him the quiet possession of the crown; or (having no sceptre) it may be of *Henry* the Second, coined in the life of king *Stephen*, after he had forced him to an agreement, and secured the reversion of the crown; for some of our antiquaries are for placing these two last to the Second *Henry*.

*Anno* 1106, in the seventh of *Henry* the First (says *Stow*<sup>a</sup>), it was ordered that the Penny should have a double cross, with a crest, in such sort, that it might be easily broken into Half-pence and Farthings; an absurd and destructive practice, as I have observed before<sup>b</sup>, which needed not to be enforced by law; on the contrary<sup>c</sup>, *Simon Dunelm*, and *Hoveden*, who both lived near the time, inform us, that the King appointed Pence, Half-pence, and Farthings, should

<sup>a</sup> Annals, p. 201.    <sup>b</sup> p. 37.    <sup>c</sup> In Camden *Britannia*, p. 177. Eng. Hist. Lib. p. 251. *Chronicon Preciosum*, p. 46.

Henry I. be all round; and some of these small pieces are still to be seen in several of the museums of the curious, having the King's head crowned, as on his Penny, with a pearled diadem; but without any manner of inscription. These are thought to be the first Half-pence and Farthings: but by the Penny's being at the same time appointed to be round, which never was coined otherwise, it plainly means only a new coinage, and a prohibition of all clipped and broken Money for the future. But this could not prevent the mischief, notwithstanding severe laws. It grew to such an excess, that in the year 1125, there was forced to be a re-coinage; and Money-makers<sup>a</sup> throughout all *England* being taken with false Money, had their right hands cut off, and also their privy members, (a punishment less than death, and greater.) After this, by changing of the Money, all things became most dear, whereof a right sore famine ensued. Probably, this new coinage might have a different stamp from the first Money, (which resembled his father's and brother's,) and may be those with the face

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Annals, p. 141.



inclined to the right, having the broad Henry I. sceptre, and crown *fleuri*.

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## STEPHEN, A. D. 1135.

THE unsettled state of the nation Stephen. during King *Stephen's* reign, may be discovered by the Money. It began to improve under *Henry* the First, but now grew worse, that <sup>a</sup> scarce one piece in ten was good. It is no wonder then, that it is so great a rarity to have a fair Coin of King *Stephen*. There seems, however, to have been a great deal of Money coined of some sort or other; for besides the mints in every chief town, which paid an acknowledgment <sup>b</sup> *pro cuneis monetæ accipiendis*, that is, for their dyes or stamps, every <sup>c</sup> Bishop and Baron usurped this prerogative, and erected a mint, and had each his own Coin: But <sup>d</sup> in the month of *May* 1149, *Henry* the Empress's son, (afterwards King *Henry* the Second) coming into *England*, with a great

<sup>a</sup> William Malmſbury, anno 1140. <sup>b</sup> English Hist. lib. p. 251. <sup>c</sup> Camden's Remains, 238. Stow's Annals from Hoveden, 146, 147. <sup>d</sup> Stow, p. 146, 147, from Hoveden.

Stephen. company of chosen men of arms, and others, many castles and strong holds were delivered, and he made a new Coin, which was called *the Duke's Coin*; and afterwards (I suppose when he was King) the Duke did inhibit the most part of these Coins.

The Abbot<sup>a</sup> of St. *Augustine* in *Canterbury*, in right of his abbacie, had *cunæum monetæ*, allowance of mintage and coinage of Money, by the grant of King *Atbelstan*, which continued until the time of King *Stephen*, and then was utterly lost. *Silvester*, the 45th Abbot, who died *anno 1161*, being the last Abbot that enjoyed it. As all these little mints were of short continuance, and the Money coined therein soon called in, we hardly know what they were.

The Pennies of King *Stephen* are of two sorts, one with the full, or rather side-face, shewing both the eyes; the other sort in profile, of which some look to the right, and some to the left, holding in his hand a sceptre *fleuri*, and on his head a crown *fleuri*, appearing sometimes with one arch, and sometimes with two arches, and a *fleur de lis* in the middle; but whether

<sup>a</sup> Somner's *Antiq. of Cant.* 4to. Lond. 1640, p. 54, 55.

these were really intended for arches, <sup>Stephen.</sup> is uncertain; they rather seem to owe their form to the fault of the workman, or else he meant to express the cap or covering of the head; for upon his great seal he has an open crown *fleuri*.

These Pennies are inscribed STIEFN <sup>2 S. Pl. I.</sup> REX, being commonly mis-spelt. Reverse, a <sup>Nº 8, 9.</sup> double cross pelletè at the points, terminating at the inner circle, within a compartment or rose of four leaves, the points *fleuri* in each quarter of the cross, and coined at *London*.

That in *Speed* is something singular, having his figure in profile, looking to the left, holding in his hand a spear, with a streamer or standard slit at the end, and charged with a cross, pretty much like what we see upon his great seal. This streamer<sup>a</sup> is never to be found on seals, but upon those of sovereign Princes; under the standard is a star, which we may likewise see upon his great seal.

Another has two small figures standing, <sup>1 S. Pl. I.</sup> and looking towards each other, supposed <sup>Nº 5.</sup> to be *Stephen* and *Henry*, supporting between them a figure, like the stem of a

<sup>a</sup> Sandford, p. 18.

{ Stephen. tree, with a *fleur de lis* at the top, STEP. Reverse, a cross *fleuri*, with the nails in the quarters, and in the place of the inscription, figures and other devices.

Another said <sup>a</sup> to have two angels, is more probably the two figures as the former, STIEFEN RE. with a reverse like the First *William's*.

Mr. *Thoresby* <sup>b</sup> mentions a coin of *Eustatius*, son to King *Stephen*, who died before him, EISTAOHIVS ; instead of a head, the figure of a horse, and on the reverse, a large cross of flowers *de lys*, that fills the area, without any inscription.

1 S. Pl. I.  
N<sup>o</sup> 6.

Another of *Eustatius*, has his figure standing sideways, holding a broad sword erect before him, and behind him a star, having an ornament or covering upon his head, as before described upon Prince *Robert's* Coin, EVSTACIVS. Reverse, a pellet in each quarter of a cross, within a compartment of four leaves, EBORACI ED TS. This Prince <sup>c</sup> was sent by his father to *York*, a sort of Governor, in the dispute with *Henry Murdoc*, the twenty-ninth Bishop of that see, who obtained it with-

<sup>a</sup> Eng. Hist. lib. p. 252.      <sup>b</sup> Thoresby, p. 131.

<sup>c</sup> Drake's Antiq. of York, Append. cvii.



out King *Stephen's* consent; and being refused entrance into *York*, returned to *Beverley*, where he thundered out his *Anathema's*, and interdicted the whole city. *Eustace* being then at *York*, and not able to persuade the Archbishop to take it off, by his own authority caused proclamation to be made, that all divine offices should be performed as usual. It is probable these pieces were struck during this time of his government.

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## HENRY II. A. D. 1154.

THIS King seems to have been the first, from the conquest, that made any considerable regulations in Money affairs. He suppressed <sup>a</sup> the mints which every Earl and Baron had in King *Stephen's* time, altered the Coin which was corrupted by counterfeits, by the *Traporites* or *Usurers*, who were grievously punished. He also granted liberty of coining to certain cities and abbies, allowing them one staple and two puncheons at a rate, with certain restrictions.

<sup>a</sup> M. Paris in Camden's Britan. p. 238. Stowe, p. 155. b.

Henry II.

*Anno* 1156<sup>a</sup>, in his third year, he coined new Money, which only was current in the realm, and all other Coins were forbidden. In 1159 he made a new Coin in *England*; and in 1180, *Philip Aymary*<sup>b</sup> of *Tours* was sent for to new-coin the Money, which was done, and made all round, as says *Radulf de Diceto*: so says *Stow*, who calls it a new Coin, (meaning a new coinage) which was made by commandment of King *Henry* the father, and that it was made round, but not without great burthen to the poor inhabitants of the realm: whereby it is obvious, by making it round, he means recoinning it, and calling in all the bad, light, and broken Money, which otherwise could have been no burthen to the people. It was upon this occasion, perhaps, that the Bishop of *Salisbury*<sup>c</sup>, then treasurer, established the *miles argentiarius*, or assay-master, to try the Money brought in: and from hence we may probably owe the first introduction of *sterling* for the standard of our Money, as has been discussed more fully under the word *sterling*.

<sup>a</sup> *Stow*, 149, 156.    <sup>b</sup> *Chronicon Preciosum*, p. 66.

<sup>c</sup> *Lownd's Essay*, p. 165, from the Black Book in the Exchequer.

We have observed under the preceding <sup>Henry II.</sup> reign, that this Prince coming into *England*, in the month of *May* 1149, in order to assert his right to the crown, made a new Coin, which was called *the Duke's Coin*: what sort of Money it was we don't know, but it may probably be one of those pieces which are doubtfully ascribed to the two first *Hénries*. But after the agreement between him and King *Stephen*, pieces were coined with both their figures thereon, as has been shewn.

It is with great uncertainty the Coins of *Henry* the First and Second are placed to their right owners, and even some of the Third *Henry*, if any without numerals belong to that Prince. Those that have generally been placed to *Henry* the Second, may be thus described: they have the King's head within the lesser circle, with a large beard, full-faced and crowned; the crown consisting of a row of points, or pearls, commonly five in number, and a cross of the same in the middle, the right hand appearing in the inscription, holding a sceptre with a cross of pearls, circumscribed, HENRICVS REX. Reverse, a cross of double lines, pelletè at the points, ap-

i S. Pl. I.  
N° 7, 8.

Henry II. pearing like bones, (exactly like his predecessors) and in each quarter, four pellets in cross, RICARD ON HICOL [*Lincoln*] ALLWINE ON OCS. [*Oxford*] ON LVN. ON WILT. ON SEDM. [*St. Edmundsbury*] NICOLE ON EVE [*York*] ARNAVD ON CA. ILGE ON CANT. RAVF ON NORWICH. ILGER ON LVND. There being one of the name of this last, who was *Custos Monetæ* at *London* the sixth of *Henry* the Third, has made some place these to that King: but besides the great uncertainty in this case, by reason that persons of the same name might have the same office, in different reigns; they would hardly have represented *Henry* the Third, in the sixteenth year of his age, with an old face, and a long beard, and a different crown, sceptre, and reverse, from what was afterwards used upon his money; neither would they have omitted to add the number to his name, which, no doubt, was used to distinguish his Coins from the First and Second *Henry*, from the beginning of his reign.

The draught which *Speed* gives us of this King's Coin, has his head full-faced, with a crown *fleuri*, like that upon his  
great



great seal, and three rows of pearls upon <sup>Henry II.</sup> the circle, having drops like ear-rings, of three pearls each, pendant at his ears; in his right hand a sceptre *fleuri*, and on the left side a flower, HENRICVS REX. Reverse, in the inner circle a compartment of four leaves, in form of a cross, with a like flower and pellets cross-wise in the middle, and a *fleur de lis* in each quarter.

There is one, ascribed to the younger *Henry*, who was crowned King in his father's lifetime, but died before him, having his bust to the stomach, the head in profile turned to the right, and in that hand a sceptre.

Another, I have seen, inscribed HENRICVS I. REX. in all other respects like those of King *Henry* the father; whether the stroke after *Henricus* be intended for a numeral, to distinguish the father's from the son's, after the son was crowned King in his sixteenth year, or for a letter, to distinguish the *junior* from the *senior*, or only a blunder of the graver, I shall not take upon me to determine. But, methinks, that with two faces, which *Speed* places to *Richard*, is much more likely to represent these

Henry II. these two *Henries*, the reverse being likewise exactly like *Henry* the Second's Money, and so *vice versa*, may serve to ascertain *Henry* the Second's Money.

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RICHARD I. A. D. 1189.

Rich. I. **RICHARD** the First is represented rather as a corrupter than a refiner of our *English* Coin. He was no sooner seated on the throne, than he prepared to leave it, in order to perform the vow he made before his father's death, to go to the holy war. To provide himself for this crusade, besides <sup>a</sup> ninety thousand pounds of his father's treasure, together with plate, jewels, and precious stones, and <sup>b</sup> three thousand and sixty marks of silver, and three hundred and five of gold, that came to him by the death of the Bishop of *Ely*, he used a thousand shifts to gather Money, as if he never meant to return. This so exhausted the nation, that when, afterwards, Money was to be raised to pay his ransom, the Clergy were forced to bring

<sup>a</sup> Mat. Paris.    <sup>b</sup> Daniel's Hist. of England, p. 96.

in their church-plate <sup>a</sup>, and instead thereof, Rich. I.  
 made use of latten <sup>b</sup>, for some hundred years  
 afterwards. It was probably upon this  
 occasion, the *Easterlings* <sup>c</sup>, skilful in mint  
 matters and allays, were sent for, to bring  
 the Coin to perfection. Not that the ran-  
 som was coined into Money, as *Stow* <sup>d</sup> has it;  
 for, by agreement, it was to be <sup>e</sup> one hun-  
 dred and fifty thousand marks of pure silver  
 of *Cologne* weight; but the *Easterlings* might  
 refine it to the standard agreed, which in  
 all likelihood was sterling, being the purest  
 and finest silver then used, and is called  
 coining, in the sense that tin blocks are  
 said to be coined in the dutchy of *Cornwall*,  
 and perhaps had some stamp like them, to  
 denote their goodness; and in this respect  
 may be said to be coined into Money, as  
 it answered all the purposes of Money.

After King *Richard*'s return from his  
 imprisonment, notwithstanding the poverty  
 of the nation, he found means to raise more  
 Money, to carry on his designs against  
*France*; when he likewise granted licence <sup>f</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Stow's Annals*, p. 161. <sup>b</sup> *Fuller's Holy War*, cap. 13.  
 lib. 3. p. 130. <sup>c</sup> *Camden's Remains*, ch. Money. <sup>d</sup> *An-*  
*nals*, p. 161. <sup>e</sup> *Daniel's Hist. of England*, p. 103. <sup>f</sup> *Stow*,  
 p. 162, from *Hoveden*.

Rich. I. to *Philippe* his chaplain, late made Bishop of *Durham*, to coin Money; which liberty none of his predecessors had enjoyed of long time before. From hence it may be presumed there was Money coined both in the King's and the Bishop's mints, though we have now none remaining. *Speed* indeed gives us a draught of one of his Pennies having his head full-faced, and crowned with an open crown *fleuri*, and another head, or rather face, something smaller, joined at the eyes, to the left side of the King's face, the upper part of the head serving to both, the right hand appearing in the legend, holding a sceptre with a cross, having pearls at the points, RICVS R-S REX. Reverse, within the inner circle, a double cross, and a single one in each quarter, exactly like *Henry* the Second's Money; and had not *Speed* placed it to this King, I should very readily have concluded it to be the figures of *Henry* II. and his son, whose heads are properly represented united under one crown, as they reigned together; but I cannot recollect any circumstance of King *Richard*'s reign, whereon to ground such a conjunction, nor is there any in the legend to favour it.

Another



Another of this sort in Mr. *Thoresby's* <sup>Rich. I.</sup> collection, being broken, has only REX <sup>I S. Pl. I.</sup> ANGL. legible. According to the draught, <sup>Nº 9.</sup> the head is joined to the other on the right side, and has a different reverse, viz. a single cross, extending to the edge of the Coin, and three pellets in each quarter, being coined at *London*; but for want of the name, it determines nothing.

I have never seen, or heard of any other Coins attributed to this King, except one, which, by mistake, is placed under his head in the cut to *Rapin's* History, being a coin of *Edward* the elder, having his head full-faced, with a crown like that of *Henry* the Second, inscribed EDPAERD REX. Reverse, a small cross, and an annulet; which reverse is peculiar to that King's Money, DORR ON EO FERP. *Thor. on Eoferwic* [*York*]. The resemblance of the first letter to an R, and the imperfect stamp of the rest, must have occasioned the mistake.

\* Musæum, Nº 142.

JOHN, A. D. 1199.

John.

THIS King is said to be the first that called in the *Easterlings*, to reduce the silver Money to its due fineness, from whence it had the name of *sterling*; but, as I have observed before, sterling was the known and approved standard in *England*, in all probability, from the beginning of King *Henry* the Second's reign. But King *John* was undoubtedly the first who introduced sterling Money in *Ireland*. In the year 1210, says *Stow*, in the month of *June*, the King led an army into *Ireland*, expelled *Hugh Lacy*, and brought all *Ireland* under his subjection. This was in his eleventh year, when *John de Grey*<sup>a</sup>, (Bishop of *Norwich*, and Lord Justice of *Ireland*) by the King's command, caused Pence and Farthings (*Stow*<sup>b</sup> says both Halfpence and Farthings) to be stamped, of the same weight and fineness with those of *England*, which had an equal currency in both kingdoms. King *John* made the standard of *Irish* Money equal to the *English*, at the

<sup>a</sup> Mat. Paris, ad Ann. 1210. Holingshed, p. 174.<sup>b</sup> p. 168.

same .

same time that he published the laws of <sup>John.</sup> *England*, and required the execution of them, in his new erected counties in that kingdom.

These Pence and Halfpence have his <sup>I S. Pl. I.</sup> head full-faced, with a crown *fleur*i, <sup>Nº 10.</sup> (whereas that on his great seal has rays like an eastern crown) holding in his right hand a sceptre, with a cross flory like leaves, and on the other side a rose, or flower, with four leaves, all within a triangle, intended to represent the *Irish* harp, circumscribed, JOHANNES, or IOHANNES REX. Reverse, within a like triangular harp, a crescent, and blazing star or planet, (as we see upon his brother *Richard's* first great seal) and three lesser stars in the angles, each point of the triangle terminating in a cross patè, and the like cross on each side, above the legend, ROBERD ON DIVE. *Divelin* or *Dublin*.

There is another piece of *John's Irish* Money, or rather Money coined in *Ireland*, the head and reverse both resembling the *English* Money, having his head full faced, without the triangle, but with the title of *Dominus Hiberniæ*; and reverse, a cross, with an annulet in each quarter. King  
Henry

John.

*Henry*, his father, in a parliament at *Oxford*, granted him the kingdom of *Ireland*; and in the annals of *Ireland*<sup>a</sup> we read, that *Johannes, Filius Regis, Dominus Hiberniæ*, (as he stiles himself also upon his seal) *de dono patris, venit in Hiberniam, anno ætatis suæ duodecimo*; which will fall in the twenty-fifth year of his father's reign, anno 1178. Upon this occasion, no doubt, he asserted his prerogative of coining Money, stiling himself *Dominus Hiberniæ*; which title being granted to him, neither his father nor brother used. But *John* retained it after he was King, being the first that used that title.

The Coins that have been hitherto found of King *John*, are all *Irish*, but we must not therefore conclude he coined no Money in *England*. If King *Richard* exhausted the wealth of the nation, and coined very little Money, there was the greater need of it in the reign of his successor. *Stow* observes, that in his seventh year, the Penny was so fore clipped, there was no remedy but to have it renewed. Now, there was no mint erected in *Ireland* till the latter end of his eleventh, or the beginning of

<sup>a</sup> Selden, Tit. Hon. p. 38. 1631.



his twelfth year; and it is not likely the John.  
 nation should suffer this inconvenience near  
 five years longer, till his conquest of *Ire-*  
*land*, and then that bullion should be sent  
 thither to be coined, and afterwards sent  
 back again in Money for the use of *Eng-*  
*land*; for that this *Irish* Money was to be  
 equally current in both, was the natural  
 consequence of its being made of equal  
 weight and fineness with the *English*, not  
 that it was coined, as *English* Money, for  
 the use of *England*: nor is it probable the  
 mints in *England* should stand still for  
 eighteen years that this King reigned, espe-  
 cially the Bishops' mints; for in his sixth  
 year is a grant<sup>a</sup> of this privilege to the  
 Bishop of *Chichester*; *sciatis quod concessimus*  
*venerabili patri nostro Cicester Episcopo,*  
*quod habeat cuneum suum in civitate*  
*Cicestriæ, &c. teste, 29 April.* Many  
 others claimed the same privilege. And,  
 according to *Stow*<sup>b</sup>, in the ninth of King  
*John* there was, besides the mint at *Lon-*  
*don*, other mints at *Canterbury*, *Winchester*,  
*Chichester*, *Exeter*, *Rochester*, *Ipswich*, *Nor-*  
*wich*, *Linne*, *Lincoln*, *York*, *Carlisle*, *North-*

<sup>a</sup> Claus. 6 Joh. m. 3. in Blount's Law Dict. Verb. Cuneum Monetæ. <sup>b</sup> Survey of Lond. Strype's Edit. vol. 1. lib. 1. p. 83.

{ John. *ampton, Oxford, St. Edmundsbury, and Durham.* The reason why we do not find *English*, as well as *Irish* Coins, may be, that there was but little coined in the *English* mints. And the clippers, who were very notorious in *England*, were not so bad, or hardly known in *Ireland*; whereby some of the latter escaped, though in such small quantities, that even an *Irish* Coin of King *John*'s is a very great rarity.

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### HENRY III. A. D. 1216.

{ Hen. III. **T**HE state of the Money must have been very bad at the beginning of *Henry* the Third's reign, considering how little had been coined, and how much had been consumed by his two immediate predecessors: and though there was probably a great deal of Money coined in the former part of his reign, (for there is a grant<sup>a</sup> for the Bishop of *York*'s mint in his second year) it was squandered away in two fruitless expeditions to *France*, in one of which, in his twenty-fifth year,

<sup>a</sup> Clause 2 Hen. 3. m. 6.

he is said<sup>a</sup> to have carried out no less Hen. III.  
 than thirty barrels of sterling Coin. The }  
 Money was likewise so corrupted<sup>b</sup> in those  
 days by detestable clippers, and false coiners,  
 that neither the *English*, nor even foreigners,  
 could look upon it unconcernedly: for it  
 was clipped almost to the innermost ring,  
 and the border of letters either wholly  
 taken away, or very much diminished.  
 Whereupon proclamation was made in  
 all cities, boroughs, markets, and fairs,  
 that no piece of Coin should pass, un-  
 less it were of lawful weight, and of  
 circular form; and that the transgres-  
 sors of this proclamation should be pu-  
 nished.

Strict enquiry was also made after the  
 authors of this mischief, who were chiefly  
 the *Corfini*, a knot of *Italian* bankers,  
 who, under pretence of coming hither to  
 traffic, by the Pope's encouragement, car-  
 ried on their usury, and other oppressive  
 exactions. There were also many *Jews* and  
*Flemish* merchants in the confederacy; and  
 such of them as could be apprehended,  
 were immediately executed.

<sup>a</sup> Daniel's Hist. p. 136. fol. Lond. 1621. <sup>b</sup> Mat.  
 Paris, 1247-48, 32 H. 3.

Hen. III.

The old Money was called in<sup>a</sup>, and it was thought good to change the same, and to make it baser. Whereupon stamps were graven, of a new incision or cut, and sent to the abbey of *Bury* in *Suffolk*, to *Canterbury*, *Diuelin*, and other places, forbidding to use any other stamp, than was used at the Exchange or Mint at *London*. All the old stamps were called in; the old Money was exchanged for new, allowing thirteen Pence for every Pound, to the great damage of the people, who, besides their travel, charge, and long attendance, received of the bankers scarce twenty Shillings for thirty. And the reason of this oppression appears to be, because this recoinage was farmed by the Earl of *Cornwall*, who was accountable to the King only for the third part. By this means the grievance was increased, instead of being redressed; and the same Earl of *Cornwall*, in the forty first year of King *Henry*, being elected King of the *Romans*, is said<sup>b</sup> to have carried into *Germany*, seven hundred thousand Pounds sterling in ready Money; an immense sum in those days, which,

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Annals, anno 1247, p. 187, Mat. Paris, in anno 1247. Camden's Remains, ch. Money. <sup>b</sup> Rapin in H. 3. vol. 1. p. 331.



added to what the Pope had drawn out of <sup>Hen. III.</sup> the nation, made a very great scarcity of Money. It was to this want of Money, more than corn, (for corn had several times been dearer than it was then) that made provision so scarce, that an author<sup>a</sup> says, he saw people fighting for the carcasses of dead dogs, and other carrion, and to eat the wash that was set for the hogs, and many died of hunger. But by the quantity of this King's Coin still extant, it seems the nation was better supplied afterwards, probably in his fifty-first year, when it was enacted<sup>b</sup> that an *English Penny*, called a *Sterling*, round, and without clipping, should weigh thirty-two wheat corns in the midst of the ear, twenty Pence an ounce, and twelve ounces a Pound.

The Penny of *Henry* the Third, is known by the number III, or the word *Terci*, though it is otherwise sufficiently distinguished from that of *Henry* the Second. The crown, (instead of a row with five points or pearls, with a cross in the middle) consists of a thick line, raised at each end, or termi-

<sup>a</sup> The Author of Walter de Coventry's *Julius*.  
51. H. 3. p. 10. sect. 3.

<sup>b</sup> Stat.

Hen. III.

nating in a large pearl ; in the middle, above, having a *fleur de lis*, instead of the cross, and three pearls, or points below. But on both his great seals, the crown is composed of leaves, like a ducal coronet, and on the reverse, crowns *fleuri*. The face is likewise more youthful than the Second *Henry's*, and the beard represented by a number of dots, or points, as if to give him an artificial beard, because at first he had not a natural one ; and this being used in the beginning of his reign, was therefore probably continued throughout.

Of these Coins, there are two sorts ; one with the sceptre, and one without. In that whereon the sceptre is wanting, the inscription begins from a mullet over the head, HENRICVS REX III, or TERCI.

1 S. Pl. I.  
No. 11,  
12.

And the reverse, (on all alike) has a double cross, extending to the edge of the Coin, and three pellets in each quarter, NICOLE, or HENRI, ON LVND. HVG, ON WILTON, NICOLE ON CANT, &c. On the other sort, the right hand appears in the legend, holding a sceptre, with the cross or *fleuri*, the inscription beginning from the point of the sceptre, and the numerals falling on the side of it. NICOLE

RE-

RENAVD. RICARD, OR HENRIC ON LVND Hen. III.  
 CANT. WILLEM ON CANT. RICARD ON  
 DVRH. As for those pieces without the  
 number, which, from the name of the  
 mint-master, are thought to belong to this  
*Henry*, they are so like the other Coins of  
*Henry* the Second, and so different from  
 those of this *Henry* with the numerals,  
 (which doubtless was inserted from the first  
 coinage, to distinguish this Prince's Money  
 from the two first *Henrys*') that there is no  
 probability they were *Henry* the Third's.

Besides these Pennies, he likewise coined  
 Half-pence and Farthings, as appears by  
 some in collections.

In his thirty-fifth year, he caused<sup>a</sup> a  
 new Coin to be struck in *Ireland*, which,  
 'tis thought, was caused by the subsidies  
 then demanded of that kingdom by Pope  
*Innocent* the Fourth. These Pennies have  
 his head crowned like the *English*, holding  
 a sceptre in his right hand, with the cross  
 of pellets, and on the left side a rose of  
 five leaves. HENRICVS REX III. Re-  
 verse, the double cross and pellets, like the  
*English* Penny, RICARD ON DIVE.

<sup>a</sup> 1 Rot. Claus. 36 H. 3. 1 Rymer, tom. 1. p. 462.

Hen. III.

We are told from the manuscript Chronicle<sup>a</sup> of the city of *London*, that this King, in 1258, coined a Penny of pure gold, of the weight of two Sterlings, and commanded it should go for twenty Shillings; but this is such a singular assertion, and so contrary to experience, that it requires to be corroborated by other proofs, before it can be admitted to any degree of probability.

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EDWARD I. after the Conquest,  
A. D. 1272.

Edw. I.

THIS magnanimous Prince, amongst other great achievements of his prudent government, restored and established good Money for the use of his people. At his accession to the throne, he found the treasury empty, and the Coin in a very bad condition. The scarcity in the preceding reign, had encouraged the bringing in a great deal of base Money, to supply the want of better; and King *Edward's* absence, near two years after his father's death, increased this evil, so

<sup>a</sup> Tindal's Rapin, Notes, fol. 347.

that



that the most remarkable deceits and cor- Edw. I.  
 ruptions are found in this reign, when <sup>a</sup> }  
 there was imported (besides clipped Ster-  
 lings) a sort of light Money with a mitre,  
 another with a lion, a third of copper  
 blanchèd, in imitation of the *English Mo-*  
*ney*, a fourth like that of King *Edward*, a  
 fifth kind that was plated, and others,  
 known by the names of *Mitres*, *Leonines*,  
*Pollards*, *Crokards*, *Rosarys*, *Staldings*,  
*Steepings*, *Eagles* and *Rosarys*, which were  
 coined in parts beyond the seas, privately  
 brought into the kingdom, and uttered  
 here for Sterlings, though not worth above  
 an Half-penny.

To deter persons from carrying on this  
 pernicious practice, soon after King *Ed-*  
*ward's* return to *England*, it was enacted<sup>b</sup>,  
 that such as were taken for false Money,  
 should not be bailed. And for the better  
 restoring the Coin to its ancient purity, in  
 his third year he established a certain stand-  
 ard, as we are informed by an old ledger-  
 book<sup>c</sup> of the abbey of *St. Edmundsbury*,  
 which was thus ordered by *Gregory Rock-*  
*ley*, then Mayor of *London*, and mint-

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 6. Camden's Remains, Stow.  
 E. I. c. 15.

<sup>c</sup> Cam. Remains.

<sup>b</sup> St. 3.

Edw. I. master, “ That in a pound of Money,  
 “ containing twelve ounces, there should  
 “ be eleven ounces two Pence Farthing  
 “ pure leaf silver, commonly called silver  
 “ of *Gutheron Lane*, and seventeen Pence  
 “ Half-penny Farthing allay; the said  
 “ Pound to weigh twenty Shillings and  
 “ three Pence in account, the ounce  
 “ twenty Pence, every Penny twenty-four  
 “ grains and a half.” And this seems to  
 have been the standard all this reign; for  
 in his twenty-eighth year, an indented  
 trial piece<sup>a</sup> of the goodness of old Ster-  
 ling was lodged in the Exchequer, and  
 every pound weight *Troy* of such silver,  
 was to be shorn at twenty Shillings and  
 three Pence; according to which the va-  
 lue of silver in the Coin, was one Shilling,  
 eight Pence Farthing an ounce. But there  
 is no indenture<sup>b</sup> of the mint, by which  
 we can certainly judge of the fineness  
 and allay in the fabrication of the  
 Money, till the reign of *Edward* the  
 Third.

In his seventh year, the Money<sup>c</sup> was so  
 much defaced by rounding or clipping, it

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 20, 34.  
 p. 161.

<sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 20.

<sup>c</sup> Daniel,

was called in, and recoin'd. And the *Jews*, Edw. I.  
 who were the chief authors of the mischief, were seized throughout *England* in one day, that the guilty might not escape, and two hundred and eighty convicted of clipping and coining were executed at *London*, besides great numbers in other parts of the kingdom, by which the King was a great gainer: and sometime after a stop being put to their usury, by the statute *de Judaismo*, they left the kingdom for a time. At the same time<sup>a</sup>, the foreign base Money beforementioned was cried down by proclamation, except *Pol-lards* and *Crokards*, which were to pass at half; but afterwards they were totally prohibited.

But the greatest improvement of the Money, seems to have been in the eighteenth year of this reign, when the King, to perfect this great work, sent for *William de Turnemere*<sup>b</sup>, and his brother *Peter*, and others from *Marseilles*, and one *Friscobald*, and his companions from *Florence*, and employed them in the making of Money, and buying and exchanging of silver; and the same year there is an indenture of the

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Remains.<sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 19, 94.



Edw. I. mint for that purpose. Upon this occasion, the King had thirty furnaces at *London*, eight at *Canterbury*, (besides three the Archbishops' had there) twelve at *Bristol* twelve at *York*, and more in other great towns; in all which places the King's changers, at certain rates or prices prescribed to them, took in the clipped, rounded and counterfeit Monies, to be recoinced, and bought gold and silver of the merchants, and others, to be fabricated into new Money. At the same time it was ordained, *Quod proclametur per totum regnum, quod nulla fiat tonsura de nova moneta, sub periculo vitæ, & membrorum, & amissionis omnium terrarum & tenementorum, &c.* And this new Money (as appears by the *Red-book*) was made in the following manner. First, it was cast from the melting pot into long bars, those bars were cut with sheers into square pieces, of exact weights; then with the tongs and hammer they were forged into a round shape; after which they were blanched, that is, made white or refulgent by nealing or boiling, and afterwards stamped or impressed with an hammer, to make them perfect Money. And this kind of hammered Money



Money continued through all the suc- Edw. I.  
ceeding reigns, till the year 1663, when  
the milled Money took place.

The kingdom being thus supplied with good Money, it was necessary, (in order to keep it so) to prohibit the use of bad: for which purpose it was enacted<sup>a</sup>, that no other Coin should be current but of the King of *England, Ireland, and Scotland*; that such as arrived in *England* from beyond seas, should shew the Money they brought to the King's officers, and not to hide it between clothes, in fardels, or in bales, (as had been the practice) upon pain of forfeiting body and goods; and if any such were found, he which found the same, to have four Pence of the Pound, and the rest to the King: that if any found Money of other Coin than of *England, Ireland or Scotland*, or rounded Money, to break the same, and false Money, to be pierced, without restoring it. And because many people could not know the light and clipped Money, it was ordained to pass by weight of five Shillings of even weight by the tumbrell, delivered by the warden of

<sup>a</sup> Stat. de Moneta, 20 E. 1. sect. 1. Rastal, Money, No. 1.

Edw. I. the Exchange, marked with the King's mark; and any man might pierce the Money that did not weigh the tumbrell; and the Money of other Coin was to be weighed, and if the new Money wanted four Pence in twenty Shillings, and the old Money wanted Six-pence, to return it; and if above Six-pence, to be done of them as of the rest.

But because *English* clipped Money, and foreign counterfeit Money, was still brought into the realm, it was forbid<sup>a</sup>, upon forfeiture of the Money for the first offence, the same with all other goods found for the second, and for the third, forfeiture of body and goods: and all persons having such rounded or counterfeit Money, were presently to pierce the same, and send it to the Exchange to be new coined, or otherwise to be forfeited.

The King's Exchange<sup>b</sup> here mentioned, was near unto the cathedral church of St. Paul's, and is to this day commonly called the *Old Change*; but in evidences the *Old Exchange*. The King's exchanger in this place, was to deliver out to every other

<sup>a</sup> Stat. of small Money, Rastal, No. 2.    <sup>b</sup> Strype's Stow, p. 83.

exchanger throughout *England*, or other Edw. I.  
the King's dominions, their coining irons,  
that is to say, one standard or staple, and  
two trussels, or puncheons, and when the  
same were spent or worn, to receive them,  
with an account what sum had been coined;  
and also their pix or box of assay, and to  
deliver other irons new graven, &c.

Afterwards, in a parliament at *Stebun-  
beath*<sup>a</sup>, holden in the house of *Henry Wa-  
leis*, Mayor of *London*, *Pollards*, *Crokards*,  
&c. were prohibited<sup>b</sup> to be brought into  
the realm, on forfeiture of life and goods,  
and silver Coin or plate prohibited to be  
carried out; and all who brought Money  
from *France*, were to carry it to the table  
at *Dover*, and receive current Money of  
the realm. The calling in of these *Pol-  
lards*<sup>c</sup> and *Crokards*, and the new stamp-  
ing them again, yielded something to the  
King's coffers. Also, in his thirty-first  
year, he revived the statute of the fifty-first  
*Henry* the Third, concerning weights and  
measures, whereby the *English* Penny,  
called a *Sterling*, was to weigh, as former-

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Survey of Lond.  
27 E. 1.

<sup>b</sup> Stat. de falsa Moneta,

<sup>c</sup> Daniel, p. 167.

Edw. I. ly, thirty-two wheat corns, twenty Pence  
an ounce, and twelve ounces a pound.

This King's Coins are something different from those of his predecessors. He retained the cross and pellets, but left off the sceptre; and after his sixth year the mint-master's name, and instead thereof put CIVITAS, or VILLA, and was the first that added *Dominus Hiberniæ*, to his stile upon the Coin; which is the more extraordinary, considering that King *John* and King *Henry* the Third both used that title upon their great seals, and both coined Money in *Ireland*: yet no mention is made of that kingdom, even upon the *Irish* Coins, till this *Edward* added the title of *Dominus Hiberniæ*, which was continued, till *Henry* the Eighth changed the title of *Lord*, for that of *King*.

The Pennies of the three first *Edwards*' are so much alike, that they cannot, with any certainty, be known from each other; but following the opinion of an eminent antiquary<sup>a</sup>, it seems generally agreed, to place those, having only the three first letters of the name to this *Edward*; those

<sup>a</sup> Bish. York's manuscript. Hist. of England, .p. 256. Thoresby, No. 156.



with EDWA, or EDWARD, to the Second; <sup>Edw I.</sup> the rest to the Third; and this reason is given for it, First, Because the former are in greater plenty, (five to one;) and it is well known, that *Edward* the First coined abundantly more Money than his son. And, Secondly, Because this King on his *Irish* Coin, has always EDW. and never otherwise. But it happens that *Edward* the Third's *Irish* Penny has the name in like manner, and therefore this latter observation falls to the ground.

The *English* Penny before his seventh year, has the mint-master's name, ROBERTVS DE HADLEY.

Those afterwards, have his head in like <sup>1 S. PL. II.</sup> manner, full faced, and crowned with a <sup>Nº 13.</sup> crown composed of three *fleurs de lis*, and two rays or lesser flowers between, (whereas both upon his Groats and great seal, the circle or coronet has ducal leaves) and this epigraphe going round the head, EDW. R. ANG. DNS. HYB. Reverse, a cross to the outer circle, and three pellets in each quarter, CIVITAS LONDON LINCOL. EBORAC. CANTOR. DVRELIE. VILLA BRISTOLLIE. BEREWICI. NOVICASTRI. EXONIE. SCIEDMVNDI.

Edw. I.

Another fort has the crown with pearls upon points between the *fleurs de lis*, the letters of the inscription being smaller than the former, EDW. REX ANGL. DNS. HYB. N<sup>o</sup> 10. Reverse, CIVITAS LONDON.

The Halfpence and Farthings were coined<sup>a</sup> in his seventh year, but not then first coined round, as some jingling verses tell us, for we have shewn the contrary; they were only made in the *Exchange*<sup>b</sup> at London, near St. Paul's, still called the *Old Change*. The Halfpenny like the Penny, the Farthing circumscribed E. R. ANGLIE. without the inner circle about the head, which extends to the edge of the Coin. Reverse, the cross and pellets, LONDONIENSIS. An author<sup>c</sup> tells us these small Coins were before this time of base metal.

This King is undoubtedly the first of our monarchs that coined Groffes, or Groats, probably in imitation of the *French*, who had pieces of this denomination<sup>d</sup> a few years before, and called them *Groats*, because they were the largest silver Money in use, for till then there was no larger Coin

<sup>a</sup> Stow, p. 201. <sup>b</sup> Stripe's edit. of Stow's Survey, Lond. p. 83. <sup>c</sup> Baker's Chronicles, fol. London, 1684, p. 101. <sup>d</sup> Le Blanc, p. 170, 171.

than

than Pennies. These *French* Groats were Edw. I.  
 finer than our's, having but a twenty-fourth }  
 part allay, weighing three penny weights  
 seven grains, and were current for twelve  
*Deniers* of *Tours*, equal<sup>a</sup> to Threepence  
 sterling; our's weighed, or should have  
 weighed, four pennyweights, according to  
 the indenture<sup>b</sup> of this reign: but the *French*  
 Groat was soon raised in value, till it came  
 to twenty Pence *Tournois*, whereas our's has  
 continued at Fourpence, whence Four-  
 pence in account is called a Groat.

They are said<sup>c</sup> to have been first coined  
 in the seventh or eighth year of King  
*Edward*, upon the recoinage of the old  
 Money, (though, I think, more probably  
 in his eighteenth year, when the greatest  
 improvements were made in the Money)  
 containing Fourpence the piece (says *Stow*<sup>d</sup>)  
 some few, but they were not usual; so that  
 it seems they were never a current Coin,  
 but only specimens or designs for a larger  
 species of Money, as is evident by the  
 pieces now extant, which are of different  
 sizes and weights, from Fourpence to Six-

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 2, p. 854. <sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 34. <sup>c</sup> Stow's  
 Annals, p. 201. Survey, London, p. 83. <sup>d</sup> Survey, Lond.  
 p. 83.

Edw. I. pence, and by the Statute<sup>a</sup> of the twenty-  
 eighth of *Edward* the First, the Penny is  
 supposed to be the only current Money.  
 This is the reason, no doubt, that our  
 Historians attribute to *Edward* the Third  
 the first coinage of Groats. These Groats  
 (which are indeed great rarities) are truly  
 represented in *Speed's* draught, having his  
 head full faced, and crowned within a com-  
 partment of four parts, or rose of four  
 leaves (as it is supposed<sup>b</sup>) for *England*, in  
 like manner as the triangular harp is used  
 for *Ireland*. EDWARDVS DI. GRA. REX.  
 ANGL. Reverse, two circles of inscription  
 in the larger, DNS. HIBNE, OR HBIN. DVX.  
 AQVIT. In the lesser, CIVI. LONDONIA.  
 Over all the cross, extending to the rim,  
 and three pellets in each quarter in the  
 centre.

This is the first mention of *Aquitaine*  
 upon our Coins, though from *Henry* the  
 Second it was inserted upon the great seals.  
 It is also the first time we meet with *dei*  
*gratia* upon the Money, signifying a su-  
 pream power, independent of God only;  
 though the use of it was as old<sup>c</sup> as Chris-

<sup>a</sup> Coke's Institutes, part 2, p. 575. Articuli super Chartes.

<sup>b</sup> Thoresby, 195. <sup>c</sup> Selden, Tit. Hon. p. 123, 127.



tianity in some kingdoms of *Christendome*, Edw. I.  
 and used here by *Ina* the *West Saxon* King,  
 and some of his successors; and which we  
 likewise find upon the great seals of our  
 Kings, from *William Rufus*.

In his twenty-second year, *anno* 1293, silver mines<sup>a</sup> were discovered in *Cornwall*, and at *Comb-Martin* in *Devonshire*, in which latter, was refined out of the lead ore, three hundred and seventy pounds, which the King gave for a portion with his daughter *Eleanor* to the Count *de Bar*. In the next year five hundred and twenty-one pounds were extracted, and sent to *London* to be coined; and in the following year, when the *Derby* miners were sent to help them, seven hundred pounds weight was sent to the mint, and in the ensuing year more mines were discovered. But whether the Money coined of this silver has any mark to distinguish it from other silver, I don't know.

It is also reported<sup>b</sup>, from the *Red-Book* in the *Exchequer*, that the aforementioned foreign minters, from *Marseilles* and *Florence*, bought gold as well as silver of the

<sup>a</sup> Magn. Britan. in Cornwall and Devon. <sup>b</sup> Lownds,  
 p. 95. Eng. Hist. lib. p. 255.

Edw. II. Abbots; for in the first year of his reign, we find the King's letters directed <sup>a</sup> to *Everico de Friscombald*, whom he had appointed keeper of his *Exchange* at *Canterbury*, confirming to the Archbishop of that see, the ancient privilege of having three minters and three mints, and to coin Money in the said city. And in the twentieth and last year of his reign, the inhabitants of *Bury* <sup>b</sup> besieged the abbey, and bore out all the gold, &c. with the assay of their Coin, stamps, and all other things pertaining to their mint; which stamps could be no other than this King *Edward's*, unless we can suppose he made use of his father's stamps for Money, as he did of his great seal <sup>c</sup>, to which he only added a castle on each side of the throne for distinction. We have indeed only a probable conjecture to know their Coins from each other, as was observed under the former reign, according to which rule, those with the name EDWA. EDWAR. OR EDWARD, but most commonly EDWA. are placed to this *Edward*, in all other respects like his father's.

<sup>1</sup> S. PL. II. CIVITAS LONDON. CANTOR. DVREME  
N<sup>o</sup> 15.

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 3, p. 81.      <sup>b</sup> Stow's Annals, p. 228.

<sup>c</sup> Sandford's Genealogical Hist. p. 265. Notes.

DVNELM

DVNELM, OF DVRREM. VILLA SCI ED- Edw. II.  
MVNDI. BEREWICI, &c. }

---

EDWARD III. A. D. 1326-7.

THIS great Prince improved those Edw. III. }  
good regulations of the Coin begun by  
his grandfather, who by the severe, but  
just punishment of the *Jews*, in a great  
measure put a stop to counterfeiting and  
clipping. But, we find, it was still prac-  
tised by foreigners to bring in counterfeit  
Sterling, as base Money, as *Maile*<sup>a</sup>, and  
*Black-Maile*, supposed to be of Copper.  
To prevent this it was enacted<sup>b</sup>, that no  
counterfeit Money should be brought into  
the realm, upon forfeiture of such Money;  
and that black Money<sup>c</sup> should not be  
current: and this proving ineffectual,  
another statute<sup>d</sup> awards an exigent against  
bringers in of false Money, if they could  
not be found, or brought in by attachment  
or distress: afterwards, the nation being  
well supplied with good Money, it was

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Remains, ch. Money. <sup>b</sup> St. 9 E. 3, cap. 2.

<sup>c</sup> Ib. cap. 4. <sup>d</sup> St. 18 E. 3, p. 109.

Edw. I. merchants, and fabricated it into new Money. Perhaps they might coin Florins, and it may be a specimen for gold Money, as the Groats were for silver, for of these latter it was doubted, (though we had the authority of *Stow* and *Speed* for it) till such were found different from those of *Edward* the Third. But as this is taken from an additional fragment<sup>a</sup>, of a later date than the book itself, and no mention is made of it by any other author, we may reasonably suspend our belief, till some such pieces are discovered.

Besides the Money coined by King *Edward* in *England*, there was a great deal coined in *Ireland*, anno 1279, under the direction of *Stephen*<sup>b</sup> *de Fulborn*, Bishop of *Waterford*, Lord Deputy; there were mints at *Dublin*, *Cork*, *Waterford*, and *Pontana*<sup>c</sup> or *Drogheda*. These Coins have the King's head within the triangle or *Irish* harp, like those of his father and grandfather, EDW. R. ANG. DNS. HYB. Reverse; a cross, with the pellets as his father, and the place of mintage, CIVITAS DVBLINIE. CIVITAS WATERFOR. CIVITAS CORCACIE. and

<sup>a</sup> Eng. Hist. lib. p. 255.

<sup>b</sup> Annals Camd. Hiber.

<sup>c</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 160.



Halfpence like the Pennies. Some of the Pennies weigh very near twenty-two grains, which is above the standard of *Edward the Third*. Edw. I.

I have likewise seen a Penny like the former, (the inscription about the head not legible) which I take to be of this King's. Reverse, the cross with a mullet in each quarter, like the old *Scotch Groat*, VRBELABIONEN, perhaps coined at *Limerick*.

The *French Pollards* and *Crokards* were prohibited<sup>a</sup> in *Ireland*, by proclamation, at the same time they were in *England*.

### EDWARD II. A. D. 1307.

NEITHER our histories nor laws affording us any information touching the Coins of this King some have doubted whether he coined any Money; but considering that no Prince ever came to the crown in more favourable circumstances (however unfortunate he proved afterwards) it is hardly to be supposed, in a reign of near twenty years, the mints should stand still, especially those of the Bishops and Edw. II.

<sup>a</sup> Camden, Annals Ireland, 1300.

Edw. III. made <sup>a</sup> high treason to counterfeit the King's Coin, or to bring in false Money, as the Money called *Lusburg*. These were coined <sup>b</sup> at *Luxemburg*, resembling the true *English* Sterling, inscribed EIWA-NES. DNS. Z. REVB. Reverse, the cross and pellets as the *English* Money, LVCEB-GENSIS. And it was enacted <sup>c</sup>, that no Money should have common course in the realm, but the King's Coin. Afterwards, because the *Scotch* made a practice of carrying out the good *English* Money, and recoinng it of less value in *Scotland*, the *Scotch* pieces <sup>d</sup> of Fourpence were allowed to be current for no more than Threepence, and lesser pieces in proportion. Other wholesome laws were likewise made to preserve the Coin and bullion in the kingdom. It was prohibited <sup>e</sup> to carry out sterling Money, or silver, or gold plate, without licence, or to melt down any Sterling, Halfpenny, or Farthing: and by a statute <sup>f</sup> in his seventeenth year, (never printed) farther provision was made against the exportation of sterling Money, and

<sup>a</sup> St. 25 E. 3. St. 5. cap. 2.      <sup>b</sup> Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 195.

<sup>c</sup> St. 27 E. 3. St. 2. ch. 14.      <sup>d</sup> 47 E. 3. cap. 2. 48 E. 3.

Rymer, tom. 7. p. 41.      <sup>e</sup> St. 9 E. 3. St. 2. cap. 1.      <sup>f</sup> Eng.

Hist. lib. . Note, p. 256.

allowance given for the currency of such Edw. III.  
*Flemish* Coins, (*Grosses* or others) as were  
of the like allay: but in his twenty-seventh  
year, the nation having plenty of new  
Money<sup>a</sup>, merchants bringing silver or gold  
to the Exchanges, were permitted to carry  
out as much of the new bullion, but not  
old Sterling. Besides the Money brought  
in by trade, the King is said<sup>b</sup> to have made  
great profit by the silver mines at *Comb-*  
*Martin* in *Devonshire*. As to the coinage  
of the Money; in his ninth year, it was  
ordained<sup>c</sup>, that Exchanges should be made  
where it pleased the King and council, and  
the year following<sup>d</sup> Pence and Halfpence  
were coined by order of Parliament. And  
besides the King's mints, the charter mints  
contributed not a little to answer the pub-  
lic occasions. An author<sup>e</sup> gives us the  
form of a writ upon one of these grants;  
for coining Money as follows:

*Rex dilecto sibi Johanni de Flete custodi*  
*cambij nostri London salutem. Cum per car-*  
*tam nostram concesserimus dilectis nobis in*

<sup>a</sup> St. 27 E. 3. St. 2. ch. 14.    <sup>b</sup> Magn. Britan. in Devon-  
shire.    <sup>c</sup> St. 9 E. 3. St. 2. cap. 7.    <sup>d</sup> Rymier, 10 E. 3.

<sup>e</sup> Bishop Nicholson in his Hist. lib. . in Regist. MS. Monast.  
de Reading.

Edw. III. *Christo—Abbati & monachis de Radyng, quòd et successores in perpetuum habeant unum monetarium, & unum cuneum, apud dictum locum de Radyng ad monetam ibidem, viz. tam obolos & ferlingos, quàm ad sterlingos, prout moris est, fabricandam & faciendam, prout in cartâ nostrâ predictâ plenius continetur: vobis mandamus quòd tres cuneos de duro & competenti metallo, unum, viz. pro sterlingis, alium pro obolis, & tertium pro ferlingis, pro monetâ apud dictum locum de Radyng faciendâ, de impressione & circumscripturâ quas dictus—Abbas vobis declarabit, sumptibus ipsius abbatis, fieri & fabricari faciatis indilate, & eos ad scaccarium nostrum apud Westm. quamprimum poteritis mittatis, ita quòd sint ibidem à die S. Martini. prox. futuro in xv. dies, ad ultimum, præfato abbati ex causâ prædictâ liberand. T. J. de Shardiche apud Westm. xvii. die Nov. anno regni nostri xii°. From this writ, says the same author, it should seem, that either Abbots, and other great men, were only permitted to coin smaller pieces, or else, that there was not any greater piece coined here, till after the twelfth year of this King, than a Penny. As to the first conjecture, it is obvious, that*



that when this privilege of coining was Edw. III. first granted, there was no greater Coin } than a Penny, nor was there, even at the time of this writ, any larger in common use ; and afterwards we have Half Groats of the Bishops' mints : but the last conjecture is undoubtedly true ; for the statute of the ninth of *Edward* the Third, which provides against the melting down of Sterlings, Halfpence, or Farthings, makes no mention of Groats, which it would certainly have done, had such pieces been then current ; and therefore, in the next reign, when this statute was confirmed, Groats and Half Groats were added.

In his eighteenth year there was a new coinage<sup>a</sup>, both of gold and silver, which was to be made in the city of *York*, or elsewhere, where the King ordained, in such manner as it was made in the *Tower* of *London*. This new Money seems to have been baser or lighter than the old, and not very acceptable to the people, because the same year it was enacted, that no man should be compelled to take the new Money of gold or silver, which the King had ordained to go in payment, at a certain price,

<sup>a</sup> Raftal, N<sup>o</sup> 13.

Edw. III. within the sum of twenty Shillings. This looks as if Groats had been then coined. But, besides that our historians place it much later, we have a record<sup>a</sup> in his twenty-fifth year, where it is said, that, by the advice of his privy council, the King caused to be made new silver Money, viz. one Money to be called a *Groat*, of the value of four *Easterlings*, and one *Demy-Groß*, of the value of two *Easterlings*, to be current with our Monies of *Easterling*, *Maille*, and *Ferling*.

So that 'tis probable, the new silver Money here mentioned, was made lighter, raising the value of the silver in the Coin to twenty-two Shillings and Sixpence, as it continued some years afterwards: for,

By indenture<sup>b</sup> the twentieth of *Edward* the Third, a pound weight of old sterling silver, was to make twenty-two Shillings and Sixpence, and *Percival de Perche* was master; so the Penny must consequently weigh, or ought to weigh twenty-one grains and a quarter, instead of twenty-four, the standard weight of the old Penny.

And the like indenture in his twenty-third year, when *John Donative*, of the

<sup>a</sup> A. D. 1350, 25 E. 3. Rymer, tom. 5. p. 708.

<sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 36.

castle of *Florence*, and *Philip John Denier* Edw. III.  
 were masters and workers, by which indenture were likewise coined Halfpence and Farthings of silver.

But the greatest coinage was in his twenty-fifth year, when Groats were made, and the Money brought down again; there was a great deal coined, because<sup>a</sup> two years afterwards it was allowed to be exported. Of this new Money, *Stow*<sup>b</sup> gives us the following account. *William Edington*, Bishop of *Winchester*, and Treasurer of *England*, a wise man, but loving the King's commodity, more than the wealth of the realm and common people, caused a new Coin, called a *Groat* and *Half Groat*, to be coined; but these were of less weight (in proportion) than the Pence called *Easterlings*, by reason whereof victuals and merchandize became the dearer through the whole realm: whereupon a statute was made in the Parliament then held at *Westminster*, to reduce the same to the former rate, which was given before the late great mortality. The Statute<sup>c</sup> directs, that the Money of gold and silver, which now runneth, shall

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 27 Ed. 3. St. 2. cap. 14. <sup>b</sup> *Stow*, *Annals*, p. 251.

<sup>c</sup> St. 25 E. 3. St. 5. cap. 13. *Rastal*, 14.

Edw. III. not be impaired in weight, nor in allay, but as soon as a good way can be found, the same be put in the ancient estate, as in the Sterling. And, by the same statute, the officers of the mint were to receive plate of gold and silver by weight, and in the same manner to deliver the Money, when made, by weight, and not by number. But that part of the statute for putting the Money in the ancient estate, was not observed; for, by indenture<sup>a</sup> in the twenty-seventh of *Edward* the Third, a pound weight of silver, of the old Sterling, was to make by tale seventy-five Grosses, (or Groats) amounting to twenty-five Shillings, a hundred and fifty Half Grosses going for Twopence a-piece, or three hundred Sterlings going for Pence a-piece, and *Henry Brissel* was master and worker. By this indenture the Groat was to weigh three penny-weights, four grains, three quarters. The like<sup>b</sup> in his thirtieth and thirty-seventh year, only adding Half Sterlings, six hundred to the pound; and the same in the forty-sixth year, when *Bardet de Malepylys* of *Florence* was master and worker: so that the

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 36.    <sup>b</sup> *Ib.* p. 17.



reduction made in the twenty-fifth year Edw. III.  
 was continued throughout this reign. }

As the First *Edward* was the first of our monarchs who coined a piece of Money called a Groat, *Edward* the Third was the first that made them a current Coin. Of these there are two sorts; one with the title of *France*, the other without. His first and last Groats are of the former kind, having his head crowned with an open crown, consisting of three *fleurs de lis*, and two rays between, like his second great seal (for his first has leaves) within a rose (as it is called) of nine leaves or parts, the points inward, terminating each of them in three pellets triangular; EDWARD. D. G. (DI. G. or DEI G.) REX. ANGL. Z. FRANC. D. HYB. Reverse, the double circle, divided by the cross, and three pellets in each quarter in the centre, POSVI DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM. Alluding to the prosecution of his title to *France*, like the motto to his arms, *Dieu et mon droit*; whereby he declared he put his whole trust in God, and the justice of his cause. A motto so well approved by his successors, that it continued to the

Edw. III. uniting of the kingdoms, except<sup>a</sup> upon the country mints of *Henry* the Eighth, the bad Money of *Edward* the Sixth, and Groats of *Queen Mary*. The lesser circle has only the place of mintage, CIVITAS LONDON. Some of these Groats are distinguished from others, by a small annulet in the center of the three pellets of one quarter; and whereas there is usually a small cross patè, where the inscription on both sides begins and ends; some have a crown, or coronet, in place of the cross, as a mint-mark. One of *York* mint has a bell for the mint-mark, CIVITAS EBORACI.

The Half Groats are like the Groats, but have the King's name at length, EDWARDS, and want DEI GRATIA; some of them FRANC and others, DNS. HYB. One of *London* mint has FRACI for *Frank*; another of *York* mint wants *Meum*, and the like.

After the ratification of the treaty of *Bretigny*, in *October* 1360, King *Edward* relinquished<sup>b</sup> the title of *France*, and we have no more mention of it upon the Mo-

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 195.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 6, p. 621. A. D. 1369. Claus. 43 Ed. 3. m. 15. d.

ney till 1369, when the King of *France* Edw. III.  
 having broke the peace, King *Edward*, by  
 the advice of his Parliament, re-assumed  
 that title, as he had taken it before the  
 peace. The Money coined during this  
 space of time, is thus inscribed, EDWARD  
 DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. DNS. HIB. Z.  
 AQTIT. In all other respects like the for-  
 mer. All these Groats have *Roman* cha-  
 racters, which are supposed<sup>a</sup> to distinguish  
 them from those of *Edward* the Fourth,  
 which have the old *English* characters;  
 but there are some of these latter inscribed  
*Edward. Di. Gra. Rex. Angl. Z. Franc.*  
 which, by their weight, (being two Penny-  
 weights, twelve grains) must be *Edward*  
 the Third's; the full weight of *Edward*  
 the Fourth's being but two Penny-weights  
 three grains, and few of them reaching  
 that weight by seven or eight grains. One 1 S. Pl. II.  
Nº 17.  
 of this sort has a cross croset the mint-  
 mark, and another a rose, coined perhaps  
 in his forty-third or forty-fourth year, after  
 he re-assumed the title of *France*, and  
 renewed the war; for he was then in  
 so great want of Money, that notwith-  
 standing the aids of Parliament, he bor-

<sup>a</sup> Eng. Hist. lib. Thoresby.

Edw. III. rowed great fums of private persons; and  
 this Money was made lighter<sup>a</sup> than the former, to supply his necessities. The alteration in the titles upon these latter Groats, inserting only *England* and *France*, and leaving out *Ireland*, was followed by all his successors upon the silver Money, till *Henry* the Eighth.

The Pennies are like his father's and grandfather's, known from them only by the name, *Edwardus*, at length, and from *Edward* the Fourth's, by the form of the letters, particularly the N, which in his, is *Old English* or *Saxon*, but in the three first *Edwards*, *Roman*. EDWARDVS REX ANGLIE. Reverse, the cross and pellets, CIVITAS LONDON. One of *York* mint has EDWARDVS REX ANGLIE ET, and a rose in the centre of the reverse. One of *London* mint, with annulets in the centre of the pellets in each quarter of the cross; another of *Durham* mint, CIVITAS DV-

1S. PL. II. N° 19. NELM, and other mints. The Halfpennies are like the Pennies. The Farthing, EDWARDVS REX, or REX A. Reverse, the cross and pellets, CIVITAS LONDON. Mint-marks a cross, a mullet of six points, &c.

<sup>a</sup> Walsingham, p. 188.



This King, for any thing that has yet Edw. III. appeared to the contrary, was the first of our monarchs that coined gold Money, imitating therein the neighbouring Princes who had done the like some time before. Why they so long forbore to coin gold, I know not (says *Camden*<sup>a</sup>) unless it were of ignorance, for I think it proceeded not from the law of *Justinian* the Emperor, who forbad foreign Princes to coin gold. But surely it required no more skill to coin gold than silver; and from the year 1252, if not much sooner, Florins of gold were every where current. The reason why they did not coin gold Money of their own sooner, seems to be, because they had no need of it. A few Florins were sufficient for ordinary payments, and for extraordinary, bullion best answered the end of Money. But as the price of all things increased, the Coin was augmented in proportion. Thus the Penny grew up to a Crown, and silver was turned into gold, which now does little more than supply the place of silver, as it was in the *Conqueror's* time.

<sup>a</sup> Remains, ch. Money.

Edw. III.

The first gold Coin with us was a *Florence*, or *Florin*; for few Princes in *Europe* but coined pieces of that denomination, the name of *Florin* being generally applied to all gold Money, because the best gold Money were *Florins*; but ours were something too light, being coined for the King's benefit<sup>a</sup> towards his wars in *France*. *Stow*<sup>b</sup> tells us, the King, *anno* 1342, after the Parliament commanded *Florences* of gold to be made at the *Tower* of *London*; that is to say, the Penny, of the value of six Shillings and eight Pence; the Halfpenny, of the value of three Shillings and four Pence; and a Farthing worth twenty Pence. But he is mistaken both as to the time and value; for *anno* 1344<sup>c</sup>, and the seventeenth of *Edward* the Third, with the consent of the Prelates and Peers, it was agreed, that three sorts of Money be made in the *Tower*; one with two leopards, to be current for six Solds, to be the weight of two small Florins of *Florence*; the half of it with one leopard, at three Solds, the quarter-part with an healine, of eighteen Deniers, which were

<sup>a</sup> Daniel.<sup>b</sup> Annals, p. 239.<sup>c</sup> Rymer, A. D.

1344, tom. 5, p. 403.

commanded to be current in all payments. Edw. III.  
 This is dated at *Westminster*, the twenty-seventh of *January*, which falls in the beginning of his seventeenth year, (his reign being reckoned from the twenty-fifth of *January*.) And the standard and value of these pieces appears by an indenture<sup>a</sup>, the next year, between the King and *Walter de Dunflower*, master and worker of the Monies, whereby every pound of gold of the old standard, viz. twenty-three car-rats, three grains, and a half fine, and half a grain allay, was to be coined into fifty Florences, to be current at six Shillings a-piece, making in tale fifteen pounds; or into a proportionable number of Half or Quarter Florences, so that they were not of base allay (as *Daniel* has it) but as fine as the Nobles were afterwards, the difference being in the weight, which did not bear a just proportion to their current value in sterling Money. For this reason it was, those Florins, which had been coined in his seventeenth year, were generally disliked, and refused; and therefore the indenture for the further coinage of this gold Florin, in his eighteenth year,

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 35.

Edw. III. was laid aside, and instead thereof, the same year, a new species of gold Money was made: and because of the great damage<sup>a</sup> that had been found in the first gold Money, the same was to be no longer current, but at the will of receivers, but to be brought in to be melted down for the value of it. And it is probable they were generally brought in and recoinced, for none of them have yet been found, but

<sup>2 S. Pl. II.</sup> a Quarter Florin, having on one side a  
<sup>N<sup>o</sup> 14.</sup> helmet with lambrequins, and the crest of the lion passant guardant, as we see upon his great seal, the field being *semè de lys*, EDWR. R. ANGL. Z. FRANC. D. HYB. Reverse, a cross *flory*, with a rose in the centre, EXALTABITVR IN GLORIA.

The ninth of *July*, and eighteenth of *Edward* the Third by advice of the council<sup>b</sup>, three kinds of gold Money were ordained to be made, one to be called the *Noble*, at six Shillings and eight Pence sterling; the *Maille Noble* at forty Pence sterling, and the *Sterling Noble* at twenty Pence; which, by indenture<sup>c</sup> with *Percival de*

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 424.    <sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 416.

A. D. 1344. 18 E. 3. a Writ to the Sheriff of London.

<sup>c</sup> Lownds, p. 55.



*Perche*, were to be made thirty-nine Nobles Edw. III.  
 and a half to the pound, making in tale }  
 thirteen Pounds, three Shillings and four  
 Pence. And by this indenture the trial  
 or assay of the pix was established, as a  
 check upon the master of the mint, that  
 the Money made by him was agreeable to  
 the covenants of his indenture. At the  
 same time<sup>a</sup>, all persons were forbid to  
 carry out of the realm Money of gold or  
 silver without licence, except the new gold  
 Money, under pain of forfeiting the same,  
 and their bodies to the King's will. And  
 it was ordained, that no Money should  
 be received or paid but in the King's  
 Coin, and that none refuse the gold and  
 silver Money, the gold Money at twenty  
 Shillings of *Easterlings*. But at the same  
 time it was enacted<sup>b</sup>, that none should  
 be compelled to take the said new Mo-  
 ney, within the sum of twenty Shillings,  
 against his will. The same Money was  
 to be made in the city of *York*, or else  
 where it pleased the King, in the manner  
 it was made in the *Tower of London*.

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 416.  
 cap. 6.

<sup>b</sup> Stat. Rastal. 13. 18 E. 3.

Edw. III.

By the same order that this new Coin was published, a certain rate<sup>a</sup> was settled for exchanging gold for silver, or silver for gold, at the King's Exchange; for it seems, heretofore, persons had been deceived for want of some certain order for exchange, which probably was the chief objection to the gold Money; but now the exchange of the gold Money was settled, viz. those that would change gold for Easterlings at the King's Exchange (for no other was allowed) were to take for the Noble of gold, a Penny less than the half Mark; the Maille a Penny less than the value, and the Ferling a Farthing; and those that would buy the Noble of gold for Easterlings, to pay a Halfpenny above the value, and for the Maille and Ferling a Farthing. The twentieth of *August* following<sup>b</sup>, the first gold Money was called in to be recoinced, and the Nobles absolutely made current, and no persons were to refuse the same under forfeiture of body and goods.

In the twentieth of *Edward* the Third, the value of a pound of gold in Coin was raised to fourteen pounds, making forty-

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 416.<sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 424.

two Nobles, at six Shillings and eight Pence Edw. III.  
 a piece, or a proportionable number of }  
 Half and Quarter Nobles, by indenture<sup>a</sup>  
 with the aforementioned *Perceval de Perche*;  
 and the like by another indenture in his  
 twenty-third year, when *John Donative*  
 of the castle of *Florence*, and *Philip De-*  
*nier* were masters and workers. And the  
 King<sup>b</sup>, being desirous his gold Coin called  
 the *Noble* should be current in *Flanders* as  
 well as *England*, for the greater increase  
 of the said Money, viz. *Denarii*, *Oboli*,  
 & *Quadrantes*, called *Nobles*, appointed per-  
 sons to treat and agree with the Magistrates  
 of *Gandt*, *Bruges*, and *Espre*, and other  
 places in *Flanders*, for the striking in his  
 name the said Money, to have a like cur-  
 rency both in *England* and *Flanders*.

In his twenty-fifth year there was a great  
 alteration in the Money, by reason, as  
 was alledged<sup>c</sup>, that the same being better  
 than that of any other kingdom, had been  
 carried abroad, and base Money brought  
 in, to the damage of the people: whereupon  
 the King, by the advice of his privy coun-  
 cil, caused to be made new Money of gold,

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 36.    <sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 506. 20 E. 3.  
 A. D. 1346.    <sup>c</sup> Rymer, tom. 5, p. 708.

Edw. III. of like impressi<sup>o</sup>n and value as it was before, and ordered, that none refuse the said new made Money for the price, viz. the Noble, half a Mark; the Half Noble at three Shillings and four Pence; and Ferling at twenty Pence. By this injunction, as well as the reasons alledged for this new coinage, it is plain the Coin was made lighter. *Stow* says<sup>a</sup>, it was abated in weight, and yet made to pass at the former value, and that the old Noble was worth much above the taxed value of the new. He does not tell us what the difference was; but as no reduction of the Coin is mentioned afterwards, during this reign, it was doubtless as we find it in the indenture<sup>b</sup> with *Henry Brissel*, master worker, in the twenty-seventh year, whereby a pound of gold of the old standard was to make forty-five Nobles, or a proportionable number of Half or Quarter Nobles, amounting to fifteen pounds, the exact value of the Florences, which had formerly been refused by the people, and called in, as bad or light Money. That no reduction of the value was made afterwards is manifest, from the statute<sup>c</sup> of the twenty-fifth of

<sup>a</sup> Annals, p. 252. <sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 36. <sup>c</sup> 25 E. 3. Rast. 14.



*Edward* the Third, which enacts, that the Edw. III.  
 Money of gold and silver then current, }  
 should not be impaired in weight nor in  
 allay, but as soon as good way might be  
 found, the same should be put in the an-  
 cient estate as in the Sterling; but the lat-  
 ter part was never regarded, for we find the  
 same proportions observed in all the subse-  
 quent indentures of this reign.

The Nobles first coined, as we have  
 shewn, in the seventeenth year of King  
*Edward* the Third, were so called<sup>a</sup> from  
 their purity and excellency, being esteemed  
 the noblest and best Coins then extant; and  
 being of the value of six Shillings and eight  
 Pence, from thence the Half Mark, or six  
 Shillings and eight Pence in account, was  
 afterwards called a *Noble*. The occasion  
 of striking this famous Coin, was not, as  
*Rapin*<sup>b</sup> invidiously suggests, to perpetuate  
 the memory of an action of little impor-  
 tance, namely for clearing the channel of  
 (what he calls) a few *Corfairs*, (which,  
 nevertheless, was a memorable action) for  
 they were coined four years before; but to  
 assert King *Edward*'s dominion of the seas,  
 and title to *France*, and to commemorate

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Remains.<sup>b</sup> Vol. 1, p. 428.

Edw. III. his great and glorious naval victory over the *French* fleet, in 1340, the greatest<sup>a</sup> that ever was obtained at sea before by the *English*, and the first, where a King of *England* had commanded in person, wherein the *French*<sup>b</sup> are said to have lost thirty-thousand men. An action worthy the Monarch of the seas, and to be transmitted down to us, after the *Roman* manner, upon the best gold Money; so that this Coin may truly be called *Noble*, as well for its beauty and value, as the subject it commemorates, and indeed may be esteemed a Medal as well as a Coin.

<sup>1</sup> S. Pl. II.  
N<sup>o</sup> 20.

<sup>2</sup> S. Pl. II.  
N<sup>o</sup> 15.

This great Prince is therefore very properly represented upon these Nobles as Sovereign of the seas, standing triumphantly in a ship, compleatly armed, the crown upon his head, a naked sword in his right hand, and shield in his left, whereon, as asserting his title to *France*, he quarters the arms of that kingdom, (being *semé de lys*) in the first quarter with the arms of *England*: the first instance of quartering arms by our Kings, either upon their seals or Coins, after the example of *Ferdinand* the

<sup>a</sup> Lediard's Naval Hist. p. 47, 48.  
nealog. Hist. p. 161.

<sup>b</sup> Sandford's Ge-

Third, King of *Spain*, when he united the Edw. III. kingdoms of *Castile* and *Leon*. This is likewise the first Money whereon the arms of *England* appears, viz. three lions passant guardant, though some will have them leopards; and, what is most extraordinary, they are frequently so called in our acts of Parliament, and other publick acts. But, besides that, there is no such creature in nature as a leopard, *ex leæna et pardo*, the term *leopardé* relates only to the guardant posture, which can no way alter the property, and in that posture principally consists the majesty of the lion; and from this bearing it was, that our King *Richard* the First had the nick-name of *Cor Leonis*. So that the notion of leopards arose from the indiscriminate use of the *French* term *leopardé*; for at the same time it was apparent, what they called leopards, were true lions; which, though the *French* will not admit in terms of blazon, they have often experienced to their cost.

As these Nobles bear the arms of *France*, S. PL. II. they have the title of *France*, EDWARD. N° 20.

DEI GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRANC. DNS.  
HYB. but upon his great seal the title of  
*France*

Edw. III. *France* is placed first, agreeable to the bearing of the arms: whereas before, his titles were *Rex. Angl. Dns. Hyb. et Aquit.* the title of *Aquitaine* being now immersed in that of *France*. Upon the sides of the ship, towards the bottom, are two spikes standing out, and above them in a row three lions of *England*, and four *fleurs de lis*, viz. a *fleur de lis*, and a lion alternately. Reverse, a cross *flory*, with a *fleur de lis* at the points, a lion of *England* under a crown in each quarter, and the Letter E within a small rose in the centre, all within a compartment, called a rose of eight parts or leaves, or, as Mr. Evelyn<sup>a</sup> calls them, eight goderoons; circumscribed with this legend in old *English* characters, IHC. AVTEM. TRANSIENS. PER. MEDIV. ILLORVM. IBAT, which our alchymists<sup>b</sup> profoundly expound, that as *Jesus* passed invisible, in most secret manner, by the midst of the *Pharisees* (*John* viii. 59.) so that gold was made by invisible and secret art alchymical, of *Raymond Lully* in the *Tower*: but others say, that text was only an amulet, used in that credulous age to escape dan-

<sup>a</sup> Numismata, p. 86.  
of Money.

<sup>b</sup> Camden's Remains, chap.



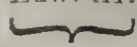
gers, superstitiously applying the words of <sup>Edw. III.</sup> the Gospel, to make the wearers invulnerable. This last conjecture seems most probable; and the occasion of it, no doubt, sprung from the wonderful preservation of the King, who, by the invifible hand of Providence, paſt unhurt through the midſt of his enemies, in that extraordinary ſea fight, which this noble Coin was intended to commemorate.

The Half or Maille Noble, is like the <sup>1 S. Pl. II.</sup> Noble, EDWAR. DEI. G. REX ANGL. Z. <sup>Nº 20.</sup> FRANC. Reverse, DOMINE. NE. IN FVRORE. TVO. ARGVAS. ME. (*Pſalm* vi. and xxxviii. v. 1.)

The Quarter or Ferling Noble, in place <sup>1 S. Pl. II.</sup> of the ſhip, has an eſcutcheon with the arms <sup>Nº 18.</sup> of *France* and *England*, quarterly, within a roſe, EDWARD. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Reverse, the croſs and lions, without the crowns, and a *fleur de lis* within the leſſer roſe in the centre, EXALTABITVR IN GLORIA.

The Nobles coined after the treaty of <sup>2 S. Pl. II.</sup> *Bretigny*, in his thirty-fourth year, when <sup>Nº 15.</sup> he relinquished the title of *France*, and before his forty-third year, when he re-aſſumed it, have this epigraphe, EDWARD.

Edw. III. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. DNS. HYB. Z.

 AQVIT. (but still quartering the arms of *France*, to keep up the claim to that kingdom) upon the side of the ship four *fleurs de lys*, two and two, and two lions alternately. The legends of some of these have the old *English* N, whereas in the former the N was *Roman*. Those with the title of *Aquitaine*, are not so common as them with the title of *France*, which are in great plenty, and proves the mistake of that observation<sup>a</sup>, that King *Edward's* victories and designs in *France*, and elsewhere, exhausted so much treasure, that little or none almost remained in the land; on the contrary, there must have been a prodigious quantity, considering the temptation to melt them down, and yet how many are left.

These Nobles were coined in *Flanders* as well as *England*, (as I have shewn) in the twentieth year of King *Edward*; and this he did as King of *France*, which title he had taken to remove the scruple of the *Flemings*, and dispense with their oath to the *French* King, not to bear arms against him: and, in imitation of these, the Earls

<sup>a</sup> Reliq. Spelm. p. 207.



of *Flanders* coined the like Nobles, differing in nothing but the arms, the name, and the titles; and the Earls of *Holland* afterwards used the ship, as allusive to their maritime situation.

King *Edward* likewise asserted his prerogative as King of *France*, by coining a *French* species of gold Coin, called an *Escu*, resembling those of King *Philip*. On these he is represented <sup>a</sup> sitting in his chair of state, crowned, holding in his right hand a sword, and with his left a shield, with the arms of *France* only, all within a rose, EDWARDVS. DEI. GRA. ANGL. Z. FRANCIE. REX. Reverse, the cross rosè, or adorned with roses, within a rose of four leaves, the points of the rose terminating in leaves in the quarters of the cross, and the like leaves opposite thereto in the interstices, XPE. VINCIT. XPE. REGNAT. XPE. IMPERAT. This is probably the new gold Coin mentioned by *Stow*<sup>b</sup>, which the Prince of *Wales* caused to be made in *Gascony*, anno 1355, the Prince being that year<sup>c</sup> appointed his father's Lieutenant of *Aquitaine*.

<sup>a</sup> Antiquary, plate, N<sup>o</sup> 4.    <sup>b</sup> Annals, p. 259.

<sup>c</sup> Sandford's Gen. Hist. p. 183.

Edw. III. *Le Blanc* tells us<sup>a</sup>, that these Escu's of *Edward*, were coined in 1339, in answer to *Philip*, who had coined such pieces with his figure thereon, holding a drawn sword in the same manner, thereby to let him know he would maintain himself in the possession of his kingdom. But this Money of *Philip*'s was before *Edward* took upon him the title of *France*, and therefore can have no relation to it. It is most likely this of King *Edward*'s was coined soon after the battle of *Poitiers*, when having the King of *France* prisoner, and a powerful army in the heart of *France*, he may be said to have been in possession of the kingdom.

The same author likewise informs us, that the lions of gold which succeeded the Escu's in 1338, were so called from the lion at the King's feet, which represented the King of *England*, over whom King *Philip* had had the advantage, in the dispute for the crown of *France*; and it is the more probable, says he, that the King of *England* was designed by this lion, because upon most of the Money King *Edward* made in *Guyenne*, that animal is repre-

<sup>a</sup> *Traite des Monoyes*, Paris, 4to. 1692, p. 257.

sented.



sented. But this author might have remembered, that *Philip* had not yet tried the strength of the *English* lion, and had gained no advantage over King *Edward*, but by seizing *Guyenne* : that the lion was the arms of *Guyenne*, and therefore *Philip* inserted it upon the Coin, to shew he was in actual possession of that dutchy ; and for the same reason the lion was put upon King *Edward's* Money coined there. *Le Blanc*<sup>a</sup> likewise mentions another *French* piece, called a *George Florin*, coined at *Orleans*, by order of *Philip* Duke of *Orleans*, the King's fourth son, made current in *February* 1340, whereon the King is represented under the figure of *St. George*, trampling on the dragon, which he will likewise have to signify the King of *England* ; and, perhaps, according to the *French* humour, it might be so intended, there not having been any such species of Money coined before, or since. But with what propriety the *French* King could take the figure of *St. George*, the patron of *England*, I do not understand, unless in return for King *Edward's* assuming the title and arms of

Edw. III.

<sup>a</sup> *Traite des Monoyes*, Paris, 4to. 1692, p. 258.

Edw. III. *France*. But these sarcastical pieces had no sting, and were retorted upon the maker with a vengeance at the battles of *Cressy* and *Poitiers*, after which all the coin and wealth of *France* was hardly sufficient to pay the ransom of their King, when he had endured near five years captivity in *England*, and they were reduced to such poverty, that they made use of Leather Money<sup>a</sup>, with a small stud or nail of silver in the middle.

<sup>2</sup> S. Pl. I. N<sup>o</sup> 12. Besides the *French* Escu, this Prince coined Money in his father's life-time, as Duke of *Aquitaine*, which was given him by his father<sup>b</sup>, in *September* 1325, being then in the thirteenth year of his age. A Half Groat of this coinage, which seems to have been struck immediately after the cession of that dutchy, represents him<sup>c</sup> in his robes, as newly created, and holding a sword in his right hand, ED.—REG. ANGL. Reverse, the cross, as on the *English* Money, with a lion passant guardant, and a *fleur de lis* alternately in the quarters, PRINCEPS — IE.

<sup>2</sup> S. Pl. I. N<sup>o</sup> 13. The Groat<sup>d</sup> has his figure in profile, looking to the left, and holding a sword

<sup>a</sup> Philip de Comines.    <sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 4, p. 165, 166. Sandford, p. 158.    <sup>c</sup> Antiquary, Plate, N<sup>o</sup> 4.    <sup>d</sup> Ib.

upon his right shoulder, with a rose as the Edw. III.  
*English* Groat, ED. ——— REGI. ——— }  
 ANGLIE PS ——— B. Reverse, the double  
 circle, cross, and pellets in the quarters,  
 ——— ECP. ——— EINTT. ——— In  
 the latter circle, AQITAN. PRINCEPS.

There is likewise a Half Groat <sup>a</sup>, coined 1 S. PL. II.  
Nº 16. by *Edward* after he was King, having his  
 head crowned, the face inclining to the  
 right, and under it a lion passant guardant,  
 the arms of *Aquitaine*, EDWARD. REX.  
 ANGL. Reverse, the *English* cross, with a  
 crown in each quarter.

In the thirty-sixth year of his reign <sup>b</sup>,  
 King *Edward* created his son the Prince of  
*Wales*, (nick-named the *Black Prince*, from  
 his black armour) Prince of *Aquitaine*,  
 upon which occasion the Prince kept his  
 Court at *Bordeaux*, the chief city of that  
 principality, with great state and magni-  
 ficence; and, as a mark of sovereignty,  
 struck Royals, and Chaînes of gold. The  
 Royal resembled the *French* Coin called  
 a *Royal*, but with a sword instead of a  
 sceptre. The Prince is represented thereon  
 under an antique canopy, of *Gothic* work,

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, Nº 190.    <sup>b</sup> Sandford, p. 185.

Edw. III. standing upon two lions couchant, guardant, in his robes, crowned with a chaplet of roses, and a large sword in his right hand, resting upon his shoulder, the back of the canopy adorned with his devise of the ostrich feathers, won from the King of *Bohemia* at the battle of *Cressy*, and ever after the badge of the Princes of *Wales*,

<sup>2</sup>S. Pl. II. ED. PO. GNS. REG. ANG. PNPS. AQTI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 17.

Reverse, a compartment or rose, and within it a cross glandé (the points terminating in acorns) between two ostrich feathers, incircling two lions, and as many *fleurs de lis*, placed alternately in each quarter, DNS.

AIVTO. PTECIO. ME Z. IIPO. SPAVIT  
COR MEVM. B. (*Psalms* xxviii. v. 8.)

There seems to have been a pretty many of these coined, though they are now exceedingly scarce, for I find a draught of this piece, with some little difference, in a *Dutch* placart or ordinance for Money, printed at *Antwerp*, anno 1633.

<sup>2</sup>S. Pl. II.  
N<sup>o</sup> 18.

The Chaise of gold (about the bigness of a milled Guinea) resembles the *French* Coin of that name, so called from the chair wherein the Prince sits. As also a masse<sup>a</sup>, from his holding a masse or sceptre

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 5.



in his hand. This was also struck at *Bourdeaux*, and has his figure in his robes, sitting in an antique chair, crowned with a chaplet of roses, and another like chaplet in his left hand, holding a sceptre in his right, ED. PO. GNS. REGIS. ANGLIE. PNS. AQUITANIE. Reverse, a compartment in the form of a rose, with a cross resembling a cross patè, having a lion and *fleur de lis* alternately in the quarters, DEVS IVDEX. IVSTVS. FORTIS. Z. PACIENS. (*Psalms* vii. v. 12.)

Whether *John* King of *Castile* and Duke of *Lancaster*, the King's brother, coined Money, I do not know; but he had a licence<sup>a</sup> in 1377 for two years, to coin Money in the city of *Bayonne*, or in the castle of *Guiffen*, or any other place, in *Senescalcia Landarum*, of gold or silver; and another<sup>b</sup> such licence in 1380, the third of *Richard* the Second.

In *Ireland*, there is said<sup>c</sup> to have been an act of state for the coining of Halfpence and Farthings, of such allay, that the pound *de Mailles* should contain twenty-

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 7, A. D. 1377. 51 E. 3. p. 148.

<sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 244. 3 R. 2. <sup>c</sup> Ward's Antiq. cap. 25, in Irish Hist. lib. p. 162.

Edw. III. one Shillings by tale, and as many Ferlings  
 as made twenty-one Shillings and eleven-  
 pence; which if so, were the best Coins  
 mentioned in this reign. But by a writ  
 two years after in *Rymer*<sup>a</sup>, *Rex custodi suo*  
*Hiberniæ*, it recites, That whereas there  
 had been made in *Ireland* black Money  
 called *Turneys*, the same are prohibited to  
 be given or taken in payment, under for-  
 feiture of the Money and things bought  
 with it; nevertheless permitting the same  
 to be current, till sterling Money be pro-  
 vided. This shews there was a great  
 scarcity of good Money in *Ireland* at that  
 time; and the following year<sup>b</sup> it was or-  
 dained, for the conveniency of the *Irish*,  
 that sterling Pence, Halfpence, and Far-  
 things, should be made at the *Exchange* at  
*Dublin*; and, for that purpose, eight pair  
 of dyes, for each sort, should be prepared  
 at the *Exchange* at *London*, and sent thither  
 for coining the said Halfpence and Far-  
 things.

This *Irish* Money has the King's head  
 in the triangular or *Irish* harp, like those  
 of *Edward* the First, and the same inscrip-  
 tion and reverse: but, if I am not mistaken,

<sup>a</sup> 12 E. 3. 12 July.    <sup>b</sup> 17 E. 3. 1 March.

these are rather broader than those, the Edw. III.  
triangle something larger, and have two }  
dots under the head, whereas those of  
*Edward* the First have but one: they are  
likewise a little lighter, not weighing above  
twenty grains, whereas the others weigh  
generally one or two and twenty.

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RICHARD II. A. D. 1377.

THIS King coined Nobles, Half No- Rich. II.  
bles, and Quarter Nobles, Groats, Half }  
Groats, Pence, and Halfpence, of the same  
standard and value, as were coined in the  
27th of *Edward* the Third. The only  
indenture in *Lownds*<sup>a</sup>, is in his eighteenth  
year, when *Nicholas Malakin*, a *Florentine*,  
was master and worker.

In his fifth year, a law was made<sup>b</sup>, to  
prevent the transportation of gold or  
silver, in Money or bullion, and the Groat,  
Half Groat, Penny, and Halfpenny of  
*Scotland*, was to be current only for half:  
and in his seventeenth year<sup>c</sup>, the statute of  
the ninth of *Edward* the Third, against

<sup>a</sup> P. 37.    <sup>b</sup> Stat. 5 and 14 R. 2.    Raftal, N° 18, 19.

<sup>c</sup> 17 R. 2. cap. 1.    14 R. 2. Raftal, 19.

Rich. II. melting of Halfpence and Farthings, was renewed, adding Groats and Half Groats, which had come into use since the making of that statute. All foreign and *Scotch* Coins, both of gold and silver, were prohibited to be current, and directed to be brought to the bullion, to be molten into coin of *England*; and that no man should send *English* Money into *Scotland*, to change the same for *Scotch* Money.

The Nobles are like those of his grandfather, but with a different epigraphe, RICHARD. D. G. REX. ANGL. FRANC. Z. DNS. HIB. Z. AQT. Here we have both *France* and *Aquitaine* mentioned, contrary to the usage of *Edward* the Third. The lions on the side of the ship are passant to the left, whereas those of *Edward* are to the right. Reverse, the initial letter of his name, within the rose in the centre.

Another has a different epigraphe, RICHARD DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. DNS. HIB. Z. AQTN. leaving out the title of *France*, (though we find it upon his great seal) which perhaps he relinquished in 1396, upon his marriage with the Lady *Isabel* of *France*, when a truce was established  
between



between the two kingdoms for twenty-Rich. II.  
eight years.

The Half Noble the like.

The Quarter Noble, RICARD. DI. GRA. REX. ANG. in all other respects like his grandfather's.

The silver Money of the Second and Third *Richard* being alike, we are under the same difficulty to distinguish them from each other, as we were those of *Edward* the Third and Fourth, the form of the letter n, being the only difference supposed to be between these, as between those. By this means, there are some pieces ascribed to *Richard* the Third, which, by the weight must belong to this *Richard*, who, as well as *Edward*, used the old *English* n upon his gold Money, therefore the weights and scales must determine it. The difference in weight is likewise the same between these two *Richards*, as between the *Edwards*. These Groats that weigh above two pennyweights, three grains, may undoubtedly be placed to *Richard* the Second, making allowance for what they usually fall short (though perfect) of the indenture weight; and also for clipping, they being generally clipped into  
the

Rich. II. the letters of the legend. This allowance being made, I believe, most of those pieces ascribed to *Richard* the Third, will be found to be Coins of this *Richard*. And indeed, as they are more plenty (though scarce) than the other, it is much more probable they should be the Second *Richard's*, who reigned twenty-two years, than *Richard* the Third's, who reigned but two.

See 1 S.  
Pl. III.  
N<sup>o</sup> 30.

The Groat and Half Groat have the King's head full faced and crowned, within the rose, (which the lesser pieces want) like his grandfather's, RICARD. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRANC. Reverse, the cross and pellets, with the double circle, and the usual legend, POSVI, &c. in the lesser circle, CIVITAS LONDON.

1 S. Pl. II.  
N<sup>o</sup> 21.

A Penny, which weighs fourteen grains and a half, though much worn, RICARDVS. REX. ANGLIE. Reverse, the cross and pellets, CIVITAS EBORACI.

A Halfpenny that weighs seven grains, RICARD. REX. ANGL. Reverse, CIVITAS LONDON.

In the ninth year of his reign, he created <sup>a</sup> *Robert de Vere* Earl of Oxford, Mar-

<sup>a</sup> See the Patent in Selden's Tit. Honour, p. 41.

quis of *Dublin*, and Duke of *Ireland*, with Rich. II.  
 the fullest prerogatives of sovereignty; and  
 amongst others, to coin Money of gold  
 and silver, of the goodness of *English*  
 Money; but whether he ever made use of  
 this power is uncertain. As also, whether  
 the King himself coined any Money in  
 that kingdom, though he was twice in  
*Ireland*, and in his eighteenth year called a  
 Parliament there.

But this King coined Money<sup>a</sup> in *Aqui-*  
*taine*; and that in *Speed*<sup>b</sup> is undoubtedly  
 a *French* Royal, coined there, bearing a near  
 resemblance to the Black Prince's, having  
 the figure of the King crowned in like  
 manner, with a sword in his hand. Only  
 this is the half figure, and without the  
 canopy, RICARD. D. GRA. ANGLIE.  
 FRACIE. REX. D. AQIT. The reverse,  
 almost the same as the Black Prince's, but  
 with a different legend, AVXILIVM. MEVM.  
 A. DOMINO. (*Psalms* cxxi. v. 2.)

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 10, p. 544. Vasc. 11. <sup>b</sup> Speed's Hist. England.

## HENRY IV. A. D. 1399.

{ Hen. IV. IN the second year<sup>a</sup> of this King, the statute of the fifth of *Richard* the Second was renewed, prohibiting the transportation of gold and silver in Money or bullion, without licence, and the Money of *Scotland*, and of *Flanders*, and other countries beyond the seas, were to be voided out of *England*, or put to Coin, by the *Christmas* following, upon pain of forfeiture. The merchants at *Calais* to do the like by foreign and *Scotch* Money there. But this last had no effect for want of a sufficient quantity of small Money for common use. And therefore, two years afterwards, the Commons<sup>b</sup> prayed an ordinance to remedy the great mischief for want of Maille and Farthings, and by that means of the use of foreign Money, as Maille of *Scotland*, and others called Galley Halfpence, and clipped Halfpence, and in some places of leaden tokens. It was thereupon enacted<sup>c</sup>, that the third part of all silver

<sup>a</sup> St. 2 H. 4. cap. 5. Raftal, 22. 4 H. 4. cap. 16.

<sup>b</sup> Parl. Rolls, 4 H. 4. in WM. in Off. Arm. p. 264.

<sup>c</sup> Stat. 4 H. 4. chap. 10.



Money should be made in Halfpence and Farthings, and of this third part, the one half to be Halfpence, and the other half Farthings, and the coiner to be sworn to do the same ; and that no goldsmith or other person melt the same, under penalty of quatreble the value : and to multiply<sup>a</sup> gold and silver was made felony. Money was likewise prohibited<sup>b</sup> to be carried out of the realm to the court of *Rome*. In the eleventh year<sup>c</sup> *Galley* Halfpence were absolutely prohibited, and wherever found to be forfeited to the King, and the statutes and ordinances relating to the Coins of *Scotland*, and the parts beyond the seas, were enjoined to be duly executed.

These *Galley* Halfpence were a Coin of *Genoa*<sup>d</sup>, brought in by the *Galley*men, or men that came up in the gallies with wine and merchandize, and thence called *Galley* Halfpence, broader than the *English* Halfpenny, but not so thick, and probably base metal, because two years afterwards a statute<sup>e</sup> was made to confirm the former law, considering the great deceit, as well

<sup>a</sup> St. 5 H. 4. ch. 4.    <sup>b</sup> 9 H. 4. ch. 8.    <sup>c</sup> St. 11 H. 4. cap. 5.

<sup>d</sup> Stow's Survey Lond. tom. 1, lib. 2, p. 40.

<sup>e</sup> St. 13 H. 4. ch. 6.

Hen. IV. of the said *Galley* Halfpence, as other foreign Money.

We have but one indenture for coinage in this reign in *Lownds*, which is in his third year, being the same as the twenty-seventh and following years of *Edward* the Third, and eighteenth of *Richard* the Second. But *Stow* says, that in his thirteenth year, *anno* 1411, he caused a new Coin of Nobles to be made, fifty to the pound; and in the Parliament rolls <sup>a</sup> of the same year, is an ordinance for increase of Coin, whereby the master of the mint in the *Tower*, might make of every pound of gold, fifty Nobles, and of silver thirty Shillings sterling, of the allay of the old Money; the ordinance to begin at *Easter* next, and endure to the end of two years; and if at the end of that time it be found against the profit of the King and his realm, then to cease.

The Nobles of *Henry* the Fourth, and their parts, are exactly like those of *Richard* the Second, imitating his predecessor in his Coin, as well as his great seal, which he usurped <sup>b</sup> with his crown, only raising

<sup>a</sup> 13 H. 4. WM. in Off. Arm. p. 420.  
Genealog. Hist. p. 265. Notes.

<sup>b</sup> Sandford's

out the name RICHARDVS, and putting in Hen. IV.  
HENRICVS. }

The Groat is also like his predecessor's 1 S. Pl. It.  
HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANGLIE (or ANGL.) Nº 22.  
Z. FRAN. (or FRANC.) One has three small  
pellets in triangle, on each side the neck.  
Reverse as usual, CIVITAS LONDON, or  
VILLA CALISIE, and various mint marks,  
as the cross-crosslet, a cross pierced,  
a *fleur de lis*, a mullet, &c. And I have  
seen a Groat of *London* mint, having a star  
or mullet upon the left side of the King's  
breast. The Half Groat is like the Groat,  
but on some the title of *France* is abbrevi-  
ated to FR. and F. One has the middle  
of the cross quatre-pierced, with a small  
pellet in the center.

The Pennies have the head without  
the rose, HENRICVS. REX. ANGL. Z. F.  
Reverse, the cross and pellets, of *London*,  
*York*, or *Calis* mint. One of *York* mint  
has a small mullet, within a rose in the  
center of the cross, and a point (or mul-  
let) on each side the crown: another  
Penny of this King has on each side the  
head a rose, and *fleur de lis*, with a rose  
in the centre of the cross upon the reverse.

Hen IV. The Halfpenny, HENRICVS REX. ANGL.

1 S. Pl. II.  
N<sup>o</sup> 23. We do not know that this King coined any Money in *Ireland*, but an author <sup>a</sup> says, that in the year 1404, he ordered the Noble of his five immediate predecessors to pass in *Ireland* for ten Shillings; and from that time all sorts of Coin went at a higher rate there, than in *England*: but it happens only two of this King's predecessors coined Nobles, so that the author is mistaken as to the fact, or the reign.

But he is said <sup>b</sup> to have coined Money in *Aquitaine*.

### HENRY V. A. D. 1412.

Henry V. **N**otwithstanding the provision made in the former reign to supply the nation with small Money, and prohibit the use of bad, we find the same evil still subsisting, the new Money being probably melted down, or transported, as fast as coined, and base Money brought in to supply the place of it. In order therefore to prevent this pernicious

<sup>a</sup> Davis's Reports in Irish Hist. p. 162.  
tom. 10, p. 544. Vasc. 11 H. 6.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer,



cious practice for the future, it was made <sup>H. 5. v.</sup> felony to bring in<sup>a</sup>, or put in payment, any *Galley* Halfpence, *Suskin*, or *Dotkin*, and all *Scottish* Money of silver; and all persons having such Money, were to bring the same to the King's Exchanges by the *Easter* following, there to be broken; and those that were found good silver, to be coined into *English* Halfpence, and clipping, washing, or filing of the Money, was declared treason. In his ninth year a thorough reformation was made in the Coin. To avoid the deceits by washing, clipping, and counterfeiting, it was ordained<sup>b</sup>, that no *English* gold Money should be received in payment, but by the King's weight, which was sent to every city, and this<sup>c</sup>, in a great measure, put a stop to that pernicious practice, which had been a great hindrance to commerce, and damage to the subject; and all former acts<sup>d</sup> concerning Money, not repealed, were confirmed.

And because a great part of the gold<sup>e</sup> then current, was neither of true weight,

<sup>a</sup> Raftal, 27, 28.    <sup>b</sup> St. 9 H. 5. ch. 11.    <sup>c</sup> Daniel, Kennet, p. 335.    <sup>d</sup> Raftal, 32. St. 9 H. 5. sect. 2. c. 1.    <sup>e</sup> Weights, Raftal, 23. St. 9 H. 5. sect. 2. ch. 7. St. 9 H. 5. ch. 11.

Henry V. nor good allay, and though a Noble<sup>a</sup> was good gold, and weight, men could get no white Money for it, all persons<sup>b</sup>, who before the *Christmas* following brought their light and bad Money to the *Tower*, were to have the same re-coined at the King's charge, except reasonable allowance to the master and officers of the mint. That all who brought Money to the *Tower* to be coined, should within eight days receive the full value of what they brought, paying the seignorage and cunage of gold, after the rate of five Shillings for the pound of the *Tower*; and for the seignorage and cunage of silver, fifteen pence for the pound, and no more: and those that would exchange the same at the *Tower*, to pay for the exchange, a Penny for the Noble, a Half-penny for the Half Noble, and a Farthing for the Quarter, with the seignorage<sup>c</sup> and cunage as before; and if the Money delivered at the Exchange was defective, it might be refused, and the exchanger was to melt it.

At the same time, an act<sup>d</sup> was made, to endure at the King's pleasure, that a

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Survey, p. 83.    <sup>b</sup> Raftal, 33. 9 H. 5. St. 2. cap. 2.  
<sup>c</sup> St. 9 H. 5. St. 2. cap. 3.    <sup>d</sup> Raftal, 30, 36, 37. 9 H. 5. cap. 5, 6.

mint should be at *Calais*, under the same Henry V.  
 regulations as the mint in the *Tower*; and  
 it was enacted, that all Money of gold or  
 silver, which should be made at the *Tower*  
 of *London*, and at *Calais*, or elsewhere  
 within the realm of *England*, by authority  
 royal, should be made of as good allay and  
 weight, as then made at the *Tower*.  
 Orders<sup>a</sup> were likewise sent upon this re-  
 coinage to all receivers of Money, that  
 they should receive all Monies brought to  
 them, if it did not want above twelve  
 pence in a Noble of the true weight, and  
 give them the new-coined Money for it;  
 by which the King, though then under  
 great necessities for Money, yet was con-  
 tented to lose almost three Shillings in the  
 pound for the benefit of the people. This  
 redress of the Coin, and the King's favour,  
 gained so much of the Parliament, that they  
 gave him a fifteenth. But *Stow* says<sup>b</sup>, this  
 fifteenth was granted of such Money as  
 was then current, gold or silver, not over-  
 much clipped. If the Noble was worth  
 five Shillings and Eightpence, the King to  
 take it for a full Noble of six Shillings and

<sup>a</sup> Daniel, Kennet. <sup>b</sup> Survey of London, by Strype, p. 83.

Henry V. Eightpence; if less, the person was to make it good to five Shillings and Eightpence, and if better, the King to pay the surplus above: but this does not agree with the statute<sup>a</sup>, which recites, that because it would be to the great loss and costs of the King's subjects, unless it pleased him to relieve them in this case; the King therefore, of his special grace, remises and forgives to his people, all that to him pertaineth for this new coinage.

The standard and proportion of the Money was the same as the latter coinage of his father's; for, by an indenture<sup>b</sup> dated the fourteenth of *April*, in the first year of his reign, with *Lewis John Dantre*, master and worker for *London* and *Calais*, he was to make three sorts of gold Money, viz. Nobles, at six Shillings and Eightpence, fifty to the pound; Pieces of three Shillings and Fourpence, and the Quarter at Twentypence, making in tale sixteen Pounds, thirteen Shillings, and Fourpence; and the pound of silver to make thirty Shillings by tale, viz. in Groats, ninety to the pound, Demy-Groats, Easterlings,

<sup>a</sup> Raftal, 31.    <sup>b</sup> Claus. 1 H. 5. in dorso, M. 35.



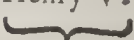
Mailes, and Ferlings. And in his ninth Henry V.  
 year was another like indenture with *Bar-*  
*tholomew Goldbeater.*

The Noble, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX.  
 ANGL. Z. FRANC. DNS. HYB. And re-  
 verse, the initial letter of his name within  
 the rose in the centre; in other respects  
 like those of *Edward* the Third, and  
*Richard* the Second, except, that upon the  
 sides of the ship are only two lions passant,  
 to the right, and three *fleurs de lis* alter-  
 nately; and the arms of *France* are three  
*fleurs de lis*, this *Henry* being the first of our  
 Kings that bore them so upon his great seal  
 and his Money. But they were used, upon  
 some other occasions, in that manner,  
 much earlier, both in *France* and *England*.  
 There is an Angel of *Philip de Valois*,  
 coined in 1340, with the three *fleurs de lis*,  
 which was probably done to vary the arms,  
 King *Edward* having then lately taken the  
 arms *semè de lis*. *Le Blanc* likewise men-  
 tions a charter of the said *Philip*, in 1355,  
 with a seal of the arms in like manner.  
 There is likewise a Groat of King *John*,  
 with only three *fleurs de lis*, though he  
 used them likewise *semè*. But *Charles* the  
 Sixth,

Henry V. Sixth, who began his reign in 1380, constantly bore the three *lis* for the arms of *France*, as they have been continued ever since. As our Kings altered the arms of *France*, in imitation of the *French* King, it is most likely *Henry* the Fourth, cotemporary to *Charles* the Sixth, began it. He did indeed bear the flowers *semè* upon his great seal, because it was his predecessor's; but that he bore the three *fleurs de lis* upon other occasions, is most likely, for so we see it at the head of his tomb at *Canterbury*; and his son *Henry*, afterward *Henry* the Fifth, in like manner bore the three *fleurs de lis* upon his seal, annexed to an indenture, so early as the sixth year of his father's reign, and no doubt after his example. *Henry* the Fifth was likewise the first who put the title of *England* before *France* upon his great seal, though from *Edward* the Third it had been so placed upon the Money.

There is another Noble distinguished by the standard of *St. George*, or flag, having *St. George's* cross thereon, at the stern of the ship.

The Quarter Noble, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. like those of *Edward* and  
*Richard*,

*Richard*, except the arms of *France*, and a Henry V. *small fleur de lis* above the escutcheon. 

The silver Money is like his father's, and known from them only by two little circles, on each side the head, probably intended for eylet-holes, from an odd stratagem<sup>a</sup>, when he was Prince, whereby he recovered his father's favour, being then dressed in a suit full of eylet-holes; from that time may likewise be dated his extraordinary change of manners, which proved so much to the honour of himself, and the kingdom, and therefore not an improper distinction of the Money of this Prince, from the others of the same name.

The Groat, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. I S.P.III. ANGL. Z. FRANC. having an eylet-hole on Nº 24. each side the neck, and two answering them amongst the globuli. On the reverse, POSVI. DEVM. ADIVTORE. MEVM. CIVITAS LONDON. but most of them are of the *Calais* mint, VILLA. CALISIE. A very fair sort has ANGLIE.

The Half Groats like the Groats, but have the title of *France* abbreviated to FR. both in the *London* and *Calais* mint.

<sup>a</sup> Stow, Speed.

Henry V. The lesser pieces, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings, HENRICVS. REX. ANGL. Reverse, the cross and pellets, CIVITAS LONDON, or VILLA CALIS.

After the victory of *Agincourt*, and conquest of *Normandy*, this heroic Prince, to assert his sovereignty as King of *France*, ordered Petit Muttons of gold, and Groats of silver to be coined at *Roan*, of the same form and goodness as the *French*. But afterwards, by an order<sup>a</sup>, dated at the castle of *Gisors*, the 25th of *September*, 1419, it was directed that all the Muttons of gold, Groats, Half Groats, and Quarter Groats of silver, Mansois, and Petit Deniers, to be coined for the time to come, should have an H in the middle of the great cross, together with the distinction as had formerly been ordered to be made.

The Quarter Groat to be current for five Deniers of *Tours*, to weigh two pennyweights, sixteen grains of silver, of the value of thirteen Shillings and Fourpence the Mark, equivalent to the *Henricus* Groat: to have on the reverse, a shield with three *fleurs de lis*, and the Demy-Groats the like.

<sup>a</sup> Pat. Norm. 7 H. 5. Rymer, tom. 9, p. 798.



The Doubles called *Mançois*, current for Henry V. Twopence *Tours*, to weigh one pennyweight, eight grains of silver, at sixteen Shillings and Eightpence the Mark; to have three *fleurs de lis* on the reverse.

The Petit Deniers, current for a Penny *Tours*, having one pennyweight allay, *Argent le Roy*, at twenty-five Shillings the Mark; to have two *fleurs de lis* upon the reverse.

The Nobles of *England* to be current See 2 S. Pl. II. N<sup>o</sup> 20. for forty-eight Gros, (which Gros are inscribed HENRICVS on the reverse, and towards the cross a leopard) making four pounds *Tours*, and sixty *Carolus* Groats, making one hundred Sols of *Tours*; and that the Petit Muttons, then valued at twelve Gros, to be current for eighteen Gros of the aforesaid Money, making thirty Shillings *Tournois*; but to continue the same weight and allay, viz. thirty-two Carrats fine, and ninety-six to the Mark *Troy*.

By another ordinance<sup>a</sup>, directed to the Keeper of the Money at *Roan*, dated the 12th of *January* following, reciting the

<sup>a</sup> Pat. Norm. 7 H. 5. Rymer, tom. 9, p. 847.

Henry V. great damage to the people, by the bringing in of base *French* Money, Groats are ordered to be made, to be current for Twentypence of *Tours*, weighing three pennyweights, eight grains of silver *le Roy*, at six Shillings and Eightpence the Mark; the said Groat to have three *fleurs de lis* under a crown upon the reverse, and on the sides of the said *fleurs de lis*, two leopards holding the same, and round them this inscription, HENRICVS. FRANCORVM. REX. and in the middle of the great cross an H, with the distinction formerly made in the first Groats, and this inscription about the great cross, SIT. NOMEN. DO-

2 S.P.III. MINI. BENEDICTVM. (*Psalms* cxiii. v. 2.)  
 N<sup>o</sup> 22. There is a Billon Groat in *Le Blanc*, which exactly answers this description.

Also there was ordered to be made little Fleurins of gold called *Escus*, twenty-two Carrats fine, and ninety-six to the Mark, having on the reverse a shield, with the plain arms of *France* and *England* quarterly, circumscribed HENRICVS. DEI. GRATIA. REX. FRANCIE. ET. ANGLIE. and near the great cross an H, and between the flowers of the said cross, two leopards, and two *fleurs de lis*, and round it this inscription,

tion, CHRISTVS. VINCIT. CHRISTVS. Henry V.  
 REGNAT. CHRISTVS. IMPERAT.

Afterward<sup>a</sup> great quantities of Money, bearing a near resemblance to this, but lighter, and of worse alloy, being brought in and paid away, to the great deceit of the people, all foreign Money was forbid. And on the 18th of *April* following, the keeper of the Money at *Saint Loe*, is directed<sup>b</sup> to coin Groats as before, with the distinction of a little point under the second letter of the inscription on either side. This the *French* called the *point secret*, which, by an ordinance<sup>c</sup> in 1415, was put under the letters of the legend, shewing, by what letter it was under, the place of fabrication; as, for instance, the mark for *Paris* was under the second letter E of *Benedictum*, for which reason King *Henry* used the same distinction; though, according to the ordinance before mentioned, the mark for *Roan* was to be under the first letter B.

From this last order of King *Henry* for coining Groats, *Rapin*<sup>d</sup> makes a Reflec-

<sup>a</sup> 1 Feb. 1420. Rymer, tom. 9, p. 860. <sup>b</sup> Pat. Norm. 8 H. 5. A.D. 1420. Rymer, tom. 9, p. 880. <sup>c</sup> Boissard *Traite des Monoyes*, p. 91. <sup>d</sup> Hist. Eng. p. 525, vol. 1.

Henry V. tion (with his usual candour) as if King Henry had not only broke the treaty, but his oath, by using the title of *France* upon the Money: but this was no new order for coining the Money in this manner, as he would insinuate, for it was so ordered the *January* before: and even at the time of making this last, King *Henry* had not so much as agreed to the preliminary articles; and according to his own account, did not execute the treaty, till the twenty-first of *May* following. Soon after this, pursuant to the article of the treaty, we have an order<sup>a</sup>, dated the sixteenth of *June*, directed to the keepers of the Money at *Roan* and *Saint Loe*, to alter the stile upon the Coin, to make blank Deniers, called *Groats*, at Twenty-pence *Tournois*, two pennyweights, twelve grains allay, at three Shillings and Fourpence the Mark, with an alteration of the stile, viz. instead of *Henricus Francorum Rex*, HENRICVS. REX. ANGLIÆ. ET. HÆRES. FRANCIÆ. And the twenty-fourth of *June* is another order<sup>b</sup> to the Chancellor of the *Exchequer*, for altering the stile in

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 9, p. 920. P. Nom. 8 H. 5.    <sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 9, p. 915. 8 H. 5. A.D. 1420.



like manner upon his seal, in which order <sup>Henry V.</sup> he writes himself *Henricus Dei Gratia, Rex Angliæ, Hæres & Regens Regni Franciæ, & Dominus Hiberniæ.*

After this King *Henry* coined <sup>a</sup> Saluts, Demi-Saluts, Blanks, and other species of Money, of the same form and goodness as those of King *Charles*, whereon he took the title of *Hæres Franciæ*. These Saluts were so called, from the salutation represented thereon. They were first coined in *November* 1421, King *Charles* being the only *French* King who coined these Saluts of gold, our King *Henry* doing the like. And, by an order of the seventeenth of *January* following, the Saluts, and Demi-Saluts of *England* made in *Normandy*, were made current in *France*, with other species of Money, viz. the Salut at twenty-five Shillings, Demi-Salut twenty-two Shillings and Sixpence, Petit Muttons fifteen Shillings, Nobles forty-two Shillings and Sixpence, Half Nobles twenty-one Shillings and Threepence, Quarter Nobles ten Shillings and Sevenpence ob.

The Blanks, or Whites, were so called <sup>b</sup> from their colour, being silver, because at

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 243. p. vii. 322, 242.    <sup>b</sup> Coke's Instit. p. 3, cap. 30. St. 2 H. 6, cap. 9.

Henry V. the same time were coined Gold. They were valued at two thirds of the Groat, and were prohibited to be current in *England* in his son's reign.

The Muttons<sup>a</sup> were so called, from the impression of the lamb, or *agnus dei*, upon them, for which reason they have the inscription, AGNVS. DEI. QVI. TOLLI. PECCATA. MVNDI. MISERERE. NOBIS. Reverse, a cross *flori* and *fleuri*, like the Nobles, within a rose of four parts, and *fleurs de lis* in the quarters, XPE. VINCIT. XPE. REGNAT. XPE. IMPERAT. The Muttons of *Henry* were like the *French* Muttons, only they had the letter H in the centre of the cross, as has been observed before.

He likewise coined Doubles<sup>b</sup>, of the value of three Mailes, commonly called *Niquets*, and other Monies, besides what he coined in *Aquitaine*.

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 169, 238. <sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 243, 245. Rymer, tom. 10, p. 544. Vasc. 11. H. 6.

## HENRY VI. A. D. 1422.

IN the first Parliament<sup>a</sup> of this reign, Hen. VI.  
the state of the mint was taken into consideration, and the Lords of the Council were impowered to appoint masters and workment, to make Money of gold and silver, and to hold the Exchanges in *York*, *Bristol*, and any other places they should think necessary; and all<sup>b</sup> gold and silver brought to the Exchange; was to be sent to the mint to be coined; hereupon mints were erected in divers places. The next year<sup>c</sup> Blanks were forbidden to be received or paid, upon pain of the statute of *Henry the Fifth*, against *Galley* Halfpence, *Suskins*, and *Dotkins*.

And whereas King *Henry the Fifth* ordained a mint at *Calais*, whereby great substance of Money of gold and silver had been brought into the realm, which was daily carried out to *Bourdeaux*, *Flanders*, and other places; the old statutes<sup>d</sup>, provided in that behalf, were enjoined to be duly executed, on forfeiture of such

<sup>a</sup> St. 1 H. 6, cap. 5.   <sup>b</sup> Ib. cap. 4.   <sup>c</sup> St. 2 H. 6, cap. 9.  
<sup>d</sup> Ib. cap. 6.

Hen. VI. Money, unless for payment of wars, soldiers, or prisoners. And to the intent that more bullion should be brought to the mint, the office and duty of the King's assayer, comptroller, and master of the mint, was ascertained by statute<sup>a</sup>; and the master enjoined to receive all silver brought to him, at the true value, and to coin all bullion brought thither; and to cause to be stricken from time to time, Half Nobles and Farthings of gold, Groats, Half Groats, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings, according to the tenour of the indenture made between the King and him; so that the common people might have recourse to the Exchange for small gold and white Money.

In the same Parliament, the nine northern counties<sup>b</sup> petitioned for a mint-master to be sent to *York*, to coin gold and silver, for the ease and benefit of the said counties, as was done in his father's time, which petition was granted.


The indenture<sup>c</sup> of the mint, to which the above-mentioned statute refers, was in the first year of *Henry* the Sixth, with

<sup>a</sup> St. 2 H. 6, cap. 12.      <sup>b</sup> Rot. Par. 2 H. 6. N<sup>o</sup> 12.  
 Drake's Antiq. York, App. 119.      <sup>c</sup> Claus. 1 H. 6. m. 1.



*Bartholomew Goldbeater*, who had been Hen. VI. master of the mint in the former reign, and is here called mint-master *en le cite de Londres, cite de Denwyk, le ville de Brisaut, et en la ville de Calais*: where it is remarkable, *Dunwich* is called a city, as having been formerly an episcopal see, the *French* word *cité* signifying an episcopal town, as anciently it did with us; and *Bristol*, though the second town in *England*, not being an episcopal see at that time, is only called *ville*; and accordingly the Coins struck at those places, are inscribed, CIVITAS. DONWIC. and VILLA. BRISTOL.

By this indenture was to be coined Nobles at six Shillings and Eightpence, fifty to the pound; Half Nobles and Quarter Nobles in proportion: and of silver, Groats, ninety to the pound; Half Groats, Easterlings, Mailes, and Ferlings; of which silver Money, four ounces in every pound was to be made into Groats, two ounces in Half Groats, three ounces in Sterlings, two ounces in Mailes, and one ounce in Ferlings. This was the same standard and value as his father's Money, and so it continued all his reign, properly so called:

Hen. VI. but upon his short restoration to power,  in his forty-ninth year, there was an indenture<sup>a</sup> with Sir *Richard Constable*, master worker, for coining Angels of gold, at six Shillings and Eightpence each, sixty-seven and a half to the pound, making in tale twenty-two Pounds ten Shillings; and of silver, a hundred and twelve Groats and a half, amounting to thirty-seven Shillings and Sixpence, or proportionably in lesser Coins. This raising the value of the gold and silver, was according to the last indenture<sup>b</sup>, in the fifth of *Edward* the Fourth, whereby Angels had been coined, supposed to be the first of that species, as will be observed afterwards, being previous in time, though falling under a subsequent reign.

S. P. III. This Angel of *Henry* the Sixth, has on  
 N<sup>o</sup> 29. one side the figure of *St. Michael* standing upon the dragon, and piercing him through the mouth with the point of his spear; the upper end of the spear terminating in a cross bottone, HENRICVS. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRANC. Reverse, a ship with a large cross for the mast, on the right side whereof is the initial letter H, and on the

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 39.

<sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 40.

left a *fleur de lis* for *France*, as we see upon Hen. VI.  
 his *French* Angelot. On the side of the  
 ship, a shield of the arms of *France* and  
*England* quarterly, PER. CRVCSE. TVA.  
 SALVA. NOS. XPE. REDETOR. a cross  
 patè the mint-mark. Another has, FRAN-  
 CIE. CRVCE. and REDET; so that there  
 were different stamps of these Angels.

His other Coins, both gold and silver,  
 are supposed to be distinguished from his  
 father's, by the arched crown, surmounted  
 with the orb and cross, being the first of  
 our Kings who appears with an arched  
 crown upon his Coins; but upon his great  
 seal he has an open crown *fleuri*, with small  
 pearls upon points between. This is like-  
 wise the first time we see the orb with the  
 cross upon the Money, though it had been  
 used<sup>a</sup>, upon other occasions, by almost all  
 our Kings, down from *Edward the Con-  
 fessor*. The arched or close crown<sup>b</sup> is not  
 of ancient use, but in the empire, and  
 thence, perhaps, was called imperial. Some  
 think *Edward* the Third first used it, be-  
 cause he was Vicar-General of the Empire,  
 and it is said that *Henry* the Fifth made  
 him an imperial crown; but this King had

<sup>a</sup> Selden, 183.    <sup>b</sup> Ib. 170, 173.

Hen. VI. certainly the best pretence to it of any Prince in *Europe* of his time, being crowned King both of *France* and *England*: but why he did not bear it upon his great seal, as well as his Coins, is not easily resolved, no more than that his successor should bear it upon his great seal, and not upon his Coins. If King *Henry* had used the arched crown upon his Money, it is probable he would have done the same upon his seal; and his successor, who bore it on his seal, would certainly have continued it on the Coin: but *Edward's* bearing it on his seal, is no argument that *Henry* used it, for the arched crown upon Money did not come into use till long afterwards. *Henry* the Seventh is the first of our Kings that we can be certain used it; and the testtoone of *Francis* the First<sup>a</sup>, coined in 1516, is the first *French* Money we see it upon. But upon this Money attributed to King *Henry* the Sixth, there are two sorts of Crowns, one with a double arch, the other having only a single arch, as *Henry* the Seventh used it; whence, in all probability, the Money having the crown with one arch belongs to him, (*Henry* the Sixth not al-

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 264, plate 1.



tering the fashion of the crown) and thus Hen. VI.  
 we see him full faced and crowned upon }  
 his first gold Money. As to those that have  
 the crown with the double crosses, it is un-  
 certain whether they belong to *Henry* the  
 Sixth or not, because we have no sufficient  
 proof he bore an arched crown; and  
 their weight rather determines them to  
*Henry* the Seventh, who, if *Speed's* draught  
 of his great seal be true, bore the double  
 arched crown, as well as <sup>a</sup> the single; it  
 appears so upon his tomb, and he might  
 make the same alteration upon his Money.  
 If this be true, it may be questioned whe-  
 ther we have any Money of *Henry* the  
 Sixth's, the weight, as well as the crown,  
 being an argument against it, unless we  
 suppose them to have been coined in the  
 forty ninth year of *Henry* the Sixth, when  
 silver, in Coin, was raised seven Shillings  
 and Sixpence in the Pound, as it continued  
 till *Henry* the Eighth. But they are too  
 plenty to have been coined during that  
 short-lived restoration; for as to the in-  
 denture mentioned by *Mr. Lownds*, in his  
 first year, it should be <sup>b</sup> the first of *Henry*  
 the Seventh; which, with some other mis-

<sup>a</sup> Sandford,      <sup>b</sup> Pat. 1 H. 7, p. 2.

Hen. VI. takes in that writer, looks as if he had not (as he says) carefully inspected and examined the originals.

<sup>1</sup>S.P.III. N<sup>o</sup> 25. The Groat attributed to *Henry* the Sixth has the double arched crown, in all other respects like the preceding Kings; HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FR. (or FRANC.) These have commonly an anchor for the mint-mark, and are of *London* mint; but there are others of *Calais* mint, for that was not discontinued.

The Half Groat is like the Groat, but the title of *France* generally abbreviated to F. Of this sort, is one with AGL. for *Anglie*, CIVITAS. CANTOR. having a tun for the mint-mark. Another, CIVITAS EBORACI. with a key on each side the King's head, as being coined in the Archbishop's mint, and a martlet the mint-mark, or rather a bird, since those heraldick distinctions are supposed not to have come into use till the next reign. These mint-marks being likewise found upon the half-faced Money of *Henry* the Seventh, affords another argument to prove them the Coins of that Prince. A very fair Groat with the single arched crown, has a cross-crofslet for the mint.

The

The Penny has the arched crown like Hen. VI.  
 the larger pieces, but some with the double, }  
 and others with the single arch. The  
 Halfpennies are usually of the latter sort.

In relation to the *Irish* Money of this reign, we find <sup>a</sup>, *anno* 1447, and the twenty-fifth of *Henry* the Sixth, that the practice of clipping having encouraged persons to counterfeit the Coin, it was ordained by Parliament, that no Money so clipped should be received after the first of *May* following, nor the Money called *O'Reyley's* Money, or any other unlawful Money; so that one coiner was ready at the said day, to make the Coin. And <sup>b</sup> in 1459, the mint was again opened at *Dublin* and *Trim*, where not only silver, but brass Money, was coined. Of this latter metal several old pieces have been found, which shew that some of the ancient *Irish* Bishops had the privilege of coining such Money.

King *Henry*, upon his accession to the crown of *England*, becoming heir of *France*, the Duke of *Bedford*, his uncle, and Regent, with the consent of King

<sup>a</sup> St. Hibern. 25 H. 6, cap. 6,  
 Hist. p. 162.

<sup>b</sup> Nicholson's *Irish*


Hen. VI. *Charles*, ordered <sup>a</sup> Money to be made with his stamp and arms. And *Charles* dying the twenty-first of *October* 1422, *Henry* was proclaimed King of *France* the twelfth of *November* following. During the first thirteen years of his reign, whilst *Paris* was in the hands of the *English*, he coined a great deal of Money, of gold, silver, and billon. The Crowns <sup>b</sup> that were stamped in the time of *Charles*, and all other Money, was forbidden to be current, and called to the mint, that had not the arms of *France* and *England* stamped on it; whilst *Charles* the Seventh, in the mean time, was forced to debase his Money, a thing <sup>c</sup> that King *Henry* the Sixth did not all the time he was master of *Paris*.

His Coins of gold were Saluts, Ange-lots, Franks, and Nobles. The Salut <sup>d</sup> was <sup>2 S. P. III. N<sup>o</sup> 21.</sup> so called from the *Salutation* represented thereon; the Virgin *Mary* holding a shield with the arms of *France*, and the Angel, another with the arms of *France* and *England* quarterly, and in a scrole, AVE. circumscribed, HENRICVS. DI. GRA. FRANCORV. Z. ANGLIE. REX. Reverse,

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 242.    <sup>b</sup> Annals, Stow, p. 363.    <sup>c</sup> Le Blanc, p. 244.    <sup>d</sup> Ibid.

within



within a compartment, or rose of ten parts Hen. VI.  
 or leaves, *fleuri* at the points, a crucifix,   
 between a *fleur de lis*, and a lion of *England*,  
 with the initial letter H at the foot of the  
 cross. Legend, XPE. VINCIT. XPE. REG-  
 NAT. XPE. IMPERAT. A lion the mint-  
 mark. Another has a crown the mint-  
 mark.

The Angelot has only one angel, holding  
 the two shields of arms, HENRICVS.  
 FRANCOV. ET. ANGLIE. REX. The  
 reverse like the Salut, but without the rose  
 encompassing it, and the initial letter.

The Frank <sup>a</sup>, so called, because it was of  
 the value of a Frank or Livre, that is  
 twenty Sols, very much resembled that of  
*Charles* the Fifth, having on one side the 2 S. P. III.  
 King's figure on horseback, in a fighting Nº 23.  
 posture, with a drawn sword in his hand,  
 his helmet crowned, and his armour and  
 the trappings of the horse semè of lions  
 and *fleurs de lis*, HENRICVS. D. G. FRANC.  
 Z. ANGLIE. REX. Reverse, within a rose,  
 or compartment of four leaves, or parts, a  
 cross *flori*, with ornaments which seem in-  
 tended for acorns, like as we see upon the

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, P. 6, p. 244.

Hen. VI. *Black Prince's* Coin, and the same at the points and interstices of the rose.

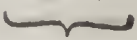
In *January* 1426, an ordinance was made in *France*, for coining of Nobles, Half Nobles, and Quarter Nobles, which (by the draught in *Le Blanc*) appears to be nothing different from the *English* Noble, if that be not one of *Henry* the Fifth.

<sup>2</sup> S. Pl. II. N<sup>o</sup> 20. The Billon Groat<sup>a</sup>, has on one side the two shields of arms, like the Salut, and above the shields his name, H<sup>ER</sup>ICVS. Circumscribed, FRANCORVM. ET ANGLIE. REX. Reverse, the cross, *fleur de lis*, and lion, as the Angelot, and under it, H<sup>ER</sup>ICVS. Legend, SIT. NOMEN. DOMINI. BENEDICTV.

<sup>2</sup> S. P. III. N<sup>o</sup> 22. Another has three *fleurs de lis* under a crown, supported by two lions, and reverse a cross *fleuri*, with the initial letter H. in the centre, which exactly answers the description of one of *Henry* the Fifth's Groats.

Petit Blanks, of two sorts, one with the two shields of arms, HENRICVS. REX. Reverse, the cross between H. R. SIT. NOMEN, &c. The other with the like shields under a crown, HENRICVS. REX. Reverse,

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, 244.

the crucifix between the *fleur de lis* and lion, FRANCORVM. ET. ANGLIE. Hen. VI. 

The Double of *Paris*, or Double Denier, <sup>2 S.P.III.</sup> HERI. with a crown above, and the *fleur* <sup>Nº 24.</sup> *de lis* and lion underneath, FRAN. Z. AGL. REX. Reverse, the cross *fleuri*, CIVIS. PARISIVS.

The *Paris* Denier, HERI. under a crown; circumscribed, FRANCORV. ET. ANGL. REX. The reverse like the Double, but has a circle about the cross.

The Denier *Tournois*, has a *fleur de lis* and a lion under it, or in pale; H. REX. FRANCIE. ET. ANGL. Reverse, a plain cross, and an annulet in the centre; TVRONIS. CIVIS.

The Halfpenny has the *fleur de lis* and lion in fess; H. FRANC. ET. ANGL. REX. Reverse, a cross, OBOLVS. CIVIS.

Besides these<sup>a</sup>, he coined Money of gold, silver, and billon, or black Money, at *Bourdeaux*, and *Bajonne*, in *Aquitaine*, of the same stamp, allay, and weight, as had been coined in the time of *Edward* the Third, *Richard* the Second, *Henry* the Fourth, and *Henry* the Fifth. And Mr.

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, A. 2. 10 and 11 H. 6, tom. 10, p. 313, 498, 532, 544.

Hen. VI. *Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> mentions a piece of base Money, the legend imperfect, having upon the reverse two lions passant, and as many *fleurs de lis*, interchangeably in the four quarters of the cross, which is doubtless of this *Aquitaine* Money, but of which of the *Henries*, is uncertain.

There was also a great deal of other Money<sup>b</sup> of gold, silver, and billon coined in that dutchy by our kings, as may be seen in a treatise of the Money of the Dukes of *Aquitaine*: but it has not been my luck to meet with it.

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EDWARD IV. A. D. 1460.

Edw. IV. **T**HE first ordinance concerning Money in this reign, was in the third year, enacting<sup>c</sup>, that all bullion of gold and silver, paid for merchandize at the staple, should be coined at the mint at *Calais*. It was afterwards<sup>d</sup> made felony to carry Coin or plate out of the kingdom without licence, and that no one should melt Money of gold

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 224.    <sup>b</sup> Le Blanc, p. 245.    <sup>c</sup> St. 3 E. 4, cap. 1.

<sup>d</sup> St. 17 E. 4, cap. 1.



or silver, sufficient to run in payment, under forfeiture of the value thereof, and *Irish* Money was forbid to run in payment in *England* or *Wales*, upon pain of forfeiture. E<sup>dw.</sup> IV.

The Money continued of the same standard and value, as in the two preceding reigns, viz. the pound of gold making sixteen Pounds, thirteen Shillings and Fourpence in tale, and the silver thirty Shillings. But in his fourth year<sup>a</sup>, *William* Lord *Hastings*, the King's Chamberlain, being made master of the mints throughout *England*, *Ireland*, and town of *Calais*, both gold and silver was raised a quarter part, viz. the Noble to eight Shillings and Fourpence, and the parts of it in proportion; the pound of gold making in tale twenty Pounds sixteen Shillings, and Eightpence, and the pound of silver making a hundred and twelve Groats and a half, or thirty-seven Shillings and Sixpence in tale.

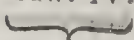
The next year<sup>b</sup>, the pound of gold in Coin was raised to twenty-two Pounds, ten Shillings, viz. forty-five Nobles, or Rials, going for ten Shillings each, Halves and

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 40. Stow's Ann. p. 419. Survey Lond.  
<sup>b</sup> Ab. 1, p. 83. <sup>c</sup> Lownds, p. 40.

Edw. IV. Quarters; or sixty-seven and a half of the pieces impressed with Angels, going for six Shillings and Eightpence each: the pound of silver to make thirty-seven Shillings and Sixpence in Coin, as before by indenture with the aforefaid *William Lord Hastings* (which proportion was observed by King *Henry* the Sixth, when he coined Money upon his restoration, and in his forty-ninth year.) And the like indentures<sup>a</sup> were made for coinage with the Lord *Hastings*, in the eighth, eleventh, and sixteenth years of *Edward* the Fourth, and in his twenty-second year, with *Bartholomew Read* master worker; by which it appears the same proportion and value was continued throughout this reign.

The first Nobles coined before his fifth year, I apprehend, were like those of King *Edward* the Third's, (for *Stow* tells us<sup>b</sup>, the new ones were smitten with a new stamp) and distinguished by the arms of *France*, which in those are only three *fleurs de lis*; whereas in these it is femè; for there are draughts of such in two<sup>c</sup> *Dutch* ordinances for Coins in 1633, and 1626, in

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 41. <sup>b</sup> Annals, p. 418, 149. <sup>c</sup> Folio, Antwerp, 1633, 4to. Gravenhaghe, 1626.

both which the legend is, EDWARD. DEI. Edw. IV.  
 GRA. REX. ANGLIE. FRANC. D. HYB. 

The new Nobles, called Rials, borrowed that name no doubt from the *French* Rial or Royal (so called<sup>a</sup> from the figure of the King thereon in his royal robes) and it was very proper they should obtain the new name, when they were no longer a Noble in value. It must have created great confusion to have had Nobles in account, and Nobles in specie, of different values. For the same reason the new species of Money coined at the same time, called Angels, being the value of a Noble, were called<sup>b</sup> Noble-Angels.

The Rial Nobles are like the old Nobles, only a little broader, having a square flag at the stern of the ship, with the initial letter E, in the old *English* character, and the addition of a rose<sup>c</sup> upon the side of the ship, different from all the Nobles coined before; from whence they were called *Rose-Nobles*, or *Rose-Rials*. Some of these are likewise marked with the initial letter of the name of the place of coinage, either upon the King's breast, or under the ship,

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, 180.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 12, p. 115.

<sup>c</sup> Rymer's *Fœdera*, tom. 12, p. 115, 20 E. 4.

Edw. IV. as E for *York*, or B for *Bristol*. EDWARD.

DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRANC. DNS. IB.

Reverse, the usual legend, IHC. AVTEM.

TRANSIENS. PER. MEDIVM. ILLORVM.

HIBAT. And instead of the cross, a sun,

with a rose in the centre; the white rose

being the badge of the house of *York*, as the

red was that of *Lancaster*, and the sun was

taken by this King, for his devise, after

the battle of *Mortimer's Cross*, when three

sunns are said to appear before the battle,

and suddenly join in one; which taking

for a happy omen, and becoming victorious,

he ever after used the sun; afterwards,

joining those two devises together, he used

them for his badge, or cognizance, as we

see it upon this Coin. This makes it the

more extraordinary, that both <sup>a</sup> *Evelyn* and

*Selden* should mistake this Coin for a Noble

of *Edward* the Third's.

The Angel, which is the first of that

species coined in *England*, is like that of

*Henry* the Sixth before described, but

having a rose on the side of the mast instead

of the *fleur de lis*.

<sup>a</sup> Numismata, p. 86. Mare Clausum, p. 260.



The *English* Money, both gold and silver, Edw. IV.  
 have the old open crown, like *Henry* the Fifth, though upon his great seal he wears the double-arched, or Imperial crown. His Groats, which are generally clipped to the letters, are known from those of *Edward* the Third, by the old *English* characters, the N appearing almost like an R, and likewise by the weight, being a third part lighter; EDWARD. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRANC. The title of *Ireland* being omitted upon his *English* silver money, as that of *England* is upon his *Irish*. Reverse, CIVITAS. LONDON. with the usual legend of POSVI, &c. a cross-crofslet the mint-mark.

Another has four pellets on each side the head, designed, no doubt, for a rose, which this King was so fond of, and a rose the mint-mark. Another has a flower for the mint-mark, consisting of many small leaves resembling a marygold; others a figure like a horse-shoe, a crown, &c. One without the pellets, has an annulet the mint-mark. A Groat of *York* mint S.P.III.  
Nº 26.  
 with the pellets, CIVITAS. EBORACI. and upon the King's breast the letter E, signifying the same; a marygold, or *fleur de lis*

Edw. IV. the mint-mark. Those of *Canterbury* mint  
 have c upon the King's breast. Others  
 VILLA. BRISTOLL. OR BRISTOW. have B  
 on the breast, and on each side the King's  
 head a flower of four leaves, of a very dif-  
 ferent shape from rose leaves. There is  
 also a Groat of COVENTRE, and probably  
 of other places.

The Penny and smaller Coins want the  
 rose about the King's head ; EDWARDVS.  
 REX, OR REX, ANGL. Reverse, the cross  
 and pellets, CIVITAS. LONDON.

One Penny has a B on the right side the  
 head. Reverse, CIVITAS. DVL, OR DVNEL.

In *Ireland*, the state of the Coin seems  
 to have been very bad the beginning of this  
 reign ; for in 1462, the Groat, Half Groat,  
 Penny, and other Coins, were so destroyed  
 by clippers, that the Parliament of *Ireland*  
 ordained<sup>a</sup>, that clipped Money should not  
 be taken in payment ; but after the *Purifi-*  
*cation of our Lady* then next ensuing, be  
 utterly void, and deemed no Coin of the  
 King. The same year mints are said<sup>b</sup> to  
 have been established by the deputy, for

<sup>a</sup> Stat. Hib. 5 E. 4, cap. 3.    <sup>b</sup> Ware's Annals, p. 74,  
 in Nich. Irish Hist. lib. p. 162.

Groats, Twopences, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings: and in 1467, liberty was given by act of Parliament, for coining of Money in the cities of *Waterford* and *Limerick*, and in the towns of *Tredagh*, *Galloway*, and *Carlingford*, as well as in *Dublin* and *Trim*. Edw. IV.

In 1475, in a Parliament at *Dublin*, the value of silver Money was raised a third part; the first difference<sup>a</sup>, between the standard of the *English* and *Irish* Money, which afterwards was always less than the *English*. By the same law, the mint was fixed at *Dublin*, *Drogheda*, and *Waterford*, and prohibited in other places: and in the 18th year of King *Edward*, another law impowered the master of the mint, to coin pieces of Threepence and a Penny: upon this Money<sup>b</sup> was the impression of three crowns, representing<sup>c</sup> the three kingdoms of *England*, *France*, and *Ireland*, and all of it was a third less in value than the *English*. These are the first Threepences that we meet with, having on one side a shield, divided by the cross, and the arms of *France* and *England* quarterly, REX. AN-

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 235. <sup>b</sup> Ware's Antiquities, cap. 25, in Irish Hist. p. 163. <sup>c</sup> Selden, 133.

Edw. IV. GLIE. Z. FRANCIE. Reverse, the like cross,  
 1 S.P.III. with three open crowns, composed of  
 N<sup>o</sup> 28. crosses and *fleurs de lis*, different from any  
 of his predecessors, (as we see it likewise  
 upon the seal of *Elizabeth* his Queen)  
 DOMINVS. HIBERNIE. Weight, twenty  
 grains and a half.

1 S.P.III. Another, EDWARD. DI. GRA. DNS.  
 N<sup>o</sup> 27. HYBERN. his head like the *English* Groat,  
 a cinquefoil the mint-mark. Reverse, his  
 cognizance of the sun, with a rose in the  
 centre, fills the area, CIVITAS. DVBLINIE.  
 This weighing twenty-two grains, must be  
 likewise a Threepence.

The *Irish* Groats have the King's head  
 within a rose, like the *English*, nothing of  
 the old triangle appearing, and generally  
 make no mention of *England*; EDWARDVS.  
 DEI. GRA. DNS. HIBERNI. Reverse, CI-  
 VITAS DVBLINIE, with the usual motto  
 of POSVI.

The like, VILLA. DE. DROGHEDA.

Another of *Waterford*<sup>a</sup>, weight, one  
 pennyweight, nine grains: another DE,  
 TRIM.

<sup>a</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 164.



## EDWARD V. A. D. 1483.

THIS unfortunate young Prince can <sup>Edw. V.</sup> hardly be numbered amongst the Kings of *England*. He was proclaimed, but not crowned. And the short space of time he survived his father, was rather the tyranny of *Richard*, than the reign of *Edward*. There was, however, a master of the mint appointed for form's sake; but it is not likely any Money was coined.

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## RICHARD III. A. D. 1483.

THOUGH this King reigned but a <sup>Rich. III.</sup> little more than two years, he coined Money both of gold and silver. Presently after his coronation, *Robert Brakenbury*, Esq. was constituted <sup>a</sup> master-worker of the Money in the *Tower*, realm of *England*, and town of *Calais*, and marches of the same: and by indenture three days after <sup>b</sup>, the pound of gold was to make forty-five Rials at ten Shillings each; with Half


<sup>a</sup> *Pat. 1st.* 17 July, 1 R. 3, p. 5, m. 3. <sup>b</sup> 20 July, 1 R. 3.

**Rich. III.** Rials and Ferlings; Angels, at six Shillings and Eightpence each; and Angelets making by tale twenty-two Pounds ten Shillings, and the pound of sterling silver, to make a hundred and twelve Groats and a Half; Half Groats, Sterlings, Halfpence, and Farthings, making in tale thirty-seven Shillings and Sixpence, being the same standard and value as the fifth of *Edward the Fourth*.

It is supposed, that he only coined Angels and Half Angels, for no other, I think, have yet been discovered. These Angels are like his predecessor's, and have a boar's head for the mint-mark; the white boar being his cognizance.

**1 S.P. III.**  
**Nº 30.**

The silver Money is like that of *Richard the Second*, but a third part lighter; the indenture weight of these Groats being but two pennyweights three grains. All that are well preserved, and do not exceed this weight, belong to this *Richard*; but they are generally clipped into the letters, and therefore a proper allowance must be made, both for short weight in the coinage (few Groats of any of our Kings coming within five or six Grains of the indenture weight) and also for the clipping. Some, if not all  
of

of this King's have the boar's head for the mint-mark. He used the old open crown upon his Money, and the double-arched crown upon his great seal, like *Edward* the Fourth, but the crosses patè, and *fleurs de lis* upon the circle. Rich. III. 

In *Ireland*, in his first year, there was some regulation made at *Dublin*, by an act of Parliament<sup>a</sup>, for breaking of all counterfeit Money, which was confirmed in the following reign; but it does not appear he coined any other Money in the stead of it.

## HENRY VII. A. D. 1485.

IN the first year of King *Henry* the Seventh, is an indenture<sup>b</sup>, dated the fourth of *November*, with Sir *Giles Dawbeney*, Knight, and *Bartholomew Read*, masters and workers of his Majesty's Monies in the *Tower of London*, realm of *England*, town of *Calais*, and marches of the same, whereby a pound of gold of the old standard was to make forty-five Rials, at ten Shillings each; Half Rials, and Rial Farthings,

<sup>a</sup> Ware's Antiq. ch. 25. Eng. Hist. lib. p. 165.

<sup>b</sup> Pat. 1 H. 7, p. 2.

Hen. VII. Angels, at fix Shillings and Eightpence each, and Angelets: and the pound of silver was to make a hundred and twelve Groats and a Half, or a proportionable number of Half Groats, Sterlings, Halfpence, and Farthings. There is another<sup>a</sup> like indenture with *John Shaw* and *Bartholomew Read*, masters and workers, bearing date the twentieth of *November*, in his eighth year; and *Lownds*<sup>b</sup> mentions another in his ninth year with *Robert Fenrotter* and *William Read*, masters and workers, all for coining the same species, and of the same goodness and value, which continued all this reign. But, besides these, were coined pieces called *Sovereigns*, and *Half Sovereigns*, for such are mentioned in the statute<sup>c</sup> in the nineteenth of *Henry* the Seventh, relating to the Coin; but when they were first coined, does not appear, for they are not mentioned in any indenture that I have seen of this reign.

In the fourth of this King, some regulation<sup>d</sup> was made in the allaying of gold and silver, which was formerly done by fire and water, under a rule and order, by

<sup>a</sup> Pat. 8 H. 7, p. 2.    <sup>b</sup> p. 41.    <sup>c</sup> Stat. 19 H. 7, c. 5.

<sup>d</sup> Stat. 4 H. 7, c. 2.



the finers at the King's mints, and at Hen. VII. *Goldsmiths-Hall* only; but at this time, it seems, finers had set up in all parts of the realms, who used divers allays, so that no fine silver was to be had, as formerly, either for Money or plate. It was therefore now enacted that no finer should fine gold or silver, nor sell to any person, but to the officers of the mint, changers, and goldsmiths, the silver to be as good as sterling; and that every finer should put his mark upon it. Also<sup>a</sup> the statute of the seventeenth of *Edward* the Fourth against transporting Money or plate was revived, and the forging<sup>b</sup> of foreign Coin, allowed to be current in *England*, was made treason. A law very suitable to this provident King, who is said<sup>c</sup> to have left behind him fifty-three hundred thousand Pounds in ready Money, most of it in foreign Coin.

In his nineteenth year, the Coin, but chiefly the silver, was so impaired by clipping and counterfeiting, and bringing in of *Irish* Coin, that it came under the consideration of Parliament to provide a remedy; and it was enacted<sup>d</sup>, that all manner

<sup>a</sup> St. 4 H. 7, cap. 23.    <sup>b</sup> Ib. cap. 18.    <sup>c</sup> Rot. Claus. An. 3 H. 8, in Coke's Inst. P. 2, p. 575.    <sup>d</sup> St. 19 H. 7, cap. 5.

Hen. VII. of gold of the Coins of a Sovereign, Half Sovereign, Rial, Half Rial, and the fourth part of a Rial, the Angel, and Half Angel, being gold, and weight, should be current for the sum they were coined for : and in like manner, all Groats, *English* or foreign, or Pence of Twopence, except reasonable wear, although cracked ; and all Pence of silver, having the print of the King's Coin, except only Pence bearing divers spurs, or the mullet between the bars of the cross, which were to be current for an Halfpenny ; and if any person refused to take the afore-said Coins according to the terms of the act, he might be compelled, or imprisoned. It was also ordained, that all manner of Groats, and Half Groats, or Pence of Twopence, as well *English* as foreign, being clipped or otherwise impaired, except reasonable wear, should not be current, but might be brought to the mint to be changed, or converted into bullion ; (which loss<sup>a</sup> was nothing in respect of the uncertainty.) And to prevent clipping for the time to come, the King, by the advice of Council, had caused to be made new Coins of Groats, and Pence of Twopence, every

<sup>a</sup> Lord Verulam's Life, H. 7.

piece whereof was to have a circle about Hen. VII.  
the outer part thereof; and the gold to be  
coined for the time to come, was to have  
the whole scripture about every piece,  
without lacking any part thereof, to the  
intent that it might be known by the circle  
or scripture, when they were clipped or  
impaired. And the warden or comptroller  
of the mint was to see this done, under the  
penalty of forfeiting their office, and being  
fined at the King's pleasure. With regard  
to *Ireland*, no bullion, plate, or Coin was  
to be carried thither, above the value of  
six Shillings and Eightpence, or brought  
from thence above three Shillings and  
Fourpence value. What is here said of  
a circle and scripture about the Coin, to  
prevent clipping, was no more than had  
always been, though the circle and a great  
part of the letters were wanting upon most  
of the Money then current. It seems there-  
fore to have been inserted in the act, to  
ascertain what was lawful Money, that if  
it had not the scripture and ring entire, it  
might not be current; and that was, in  
effect, to bring the clipped Money to the  
mint, which probably was done at this  
time;

Hen. VII. time ; for most of the Money we have of this King's is of this latter coinage.

*Stow* tells us<sup>a</sup>, this new Coin appointed by Parliament, that is to say, Groat and Half Groat, bore but half faces ; and that at the same time also was coined a Groat, which was in value Twelvepence. These Groats of Twelvepence, or Shillings, had likewise the side face, so that it seems the Money coined before his nineteenth year had the full face. But of those with the full face, whether all with arched crowns belong to this *Henry*, or only those with the single arch, is uncertain, for the reasons that have been before mentioned under *Henry* the Sixth.

The silver Money of *Henry* the Seventh with the half face differs therein from all his predecessors, after King *Stephen* : and in this his successors followed his example, for we have none afterwards with the full face, but the bad Money of *Henry* the Eighth, and the good of *Edward* the Sixth. He was the first likewise (except *Henry* the Third) that added the number to his name, to distinguish his Money from the former *Henries*. He also left off the old rose (as

<sup>a</sup> *Annals*, p. 485.



it is called) about the head, and, instead Hen. VII.  
of the pellets and place of mintage on the  
reverse, he placed the arms, which is the  
first time we see it upon the *English* silver  
Money.

The crown, as it appears upon the  
Money, consists of one arch, with little  
crosses thereon saltier-ways, surmounted  
with the orb and cross. The circle com-  
posed of crosses patonce, (the cross attri-  
buted to *Edward the Confessor*) a larger and  
a smaller alternately; for such crosses they  
appear to be upon a strict examination,  
though at first sight they look more like  
leaves, and are sometimes all of an equal  
height. The crown on his great seal has  
crosses patè, and *fleurs de lis*, and the like  
is upon the crown on his tomb, over the  
entrance of the screen or inclosure; but in  
another part they appear to be crosses humet,  
and *fleurs de lis*, with lesser flowers between;  
and in a third place the like with lesser  
crosses between. As to the arches, *Sand-  
ford*\* gives us his seal with one arch, *Speed*  
with two, as it is likewise on his tomb.  
The same difference has been observed of  
former Kings upon their Coins and great

\* Genealogical Hist. of England,

Hen. VII. sea's, by which it appears, no certain form was constantly observed. But from this time the arched crown with crosses patè and *fleurs de lis* alternately, (as upon *Henry* the Seventh's great seal) has been constantly used with very little variation, either upon seals or Coins, except upon the first Money of *Henry* the Eighth.

The Groat coined before his nineteenth year, has his head full faced within the rose, and crowned with the old crown, composed of *fleurs de lis*, with rays between, and one arch surmounted with the orb and cross. HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FR. with the usual reverse, CIVITAS. LONDON. a cross crosslet the mint-mark.

15.P.III.  
N<sup>o</sup> 31. The Groats coined in his nineteenth year, and afterwards, have his head in profile, looking to the left, with a crown of one arch, the circle adorned with crosses patonce, a larger and a smaller alternately, as before described, HENRIC.VII. DI. GRA. REX. AGL. Z. FR. Reverse, a plain shield divided by the old cross, quartering the arms of *France* and *England*, POSVI. DEV. ADIVTORE. MEV. mint-marks, a pheon, a cross crosslet, a rose, &c.

The

The Half Groats want the title of *France*. Hen. VII.  
 One of *York* mint has the keys under the arms, and a martlet the mint mark; in this the crosses of the crown are all of equal heights.

The Penny has the King's figure in his robes, and crowned, sitting in a chair of state, and holding in his hands the sceptre and orb, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANG. Reverse, the arms and cross, as upon the Groat, and under the shield the keys, shewing it to be of the Archbishop's coinage, CIVITAS. EBORACI. These Pennies (says Mr. *Thoresby*) cannot be of *Henry* the Sixth, because of the arms, nor of *Henry* the Eighth, because too heavy, weighing upwards of eleven grains; whereas the other sort (with a different epigraphe) of *Henry* the Eighth, are lighter by two or three grains: but though the heaviest of these may probably belong to *Henry* the Seventh, yet they may likewise be his son's, whose Money for some years was the same weight as his father's. Mr. *Thoresby* was, no doubt, led into this mistake by Mr. *Lownd*s, misplacing the indenture of the eighteenth, to the first of *Henry* the Eighth.

Hen. VII. These kind of Pennies of *Durham* mint are very common, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. A. Reverse, the arms, and CIVITAS. DURHAM. with the letters R. N. or C. D. on each side the arms, which must be for the minter, for they do not answer to the name of any Bishop of this see.

The Shilling, which before was a name of weight, was first made a Coin by this King<sup>a</sup>, anno 1504, in the nineteenth year of his reign. *Stow*<sup>b</sup> calls them Groats, which were in value Twelvepence, I suppose, for no other reason, but because they were the greatest Coin then made, as pieces of Fourpence were for the same reason called Groats. But *Fabian*, who lived at the time, calls them Shillings, from their value, which name they have ever since retained, except only in the beginning of *Henry* the Eighth, they are sometimes called *Testoons*. Of these, as *Stow* informs us, there were but few coined, after the rate of Forty pence the ounce; so it seems they were only specimens, or designs, for such a species of Money, which makes them very great rarities. They are of two sorts,

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Remains.    <sup>b</sup> Annals, p. 485. Survey Lond. B. 1, p. 83.




both like the Groat, and neatly stamped, Hen. VII.  
 but they have different epigraphs; one  
 HENRIC. DI. GRA. the other, HENRIC.  
 SEPTIM. DI. GRA. A few years after, the  
*French*<sup>a</sup> coined a new species of Money  
 like this, and perhaps in imitation of it, but  
 called it a *Testoön*, from whence, no doubt,  
*Henry* the Eighth took the name.

King *Henry* is also said<sup>b</sup> to have stamped  
 a small Coin called *Dandy-Prats*, but what  
 sort of Money this was, we are not in-  
 formed.

This King is the first that coined pieces  
 called *Sovereigns*, or, as some call them,  
*Double Rose Nobles*, or *Rose Rials*, from  
 their value. They had their name, no  
 doubt, from the figure of the Sovereign  
 thereon upon his throne in state; but when,  
 and for what purpose they were coined,  
 does not appear; but they were coined  
 before his nineteenth year, because the  
 statute for Money of the nineteenth of  
*Henry* the Seventh, mentions gold of the  
 Coins of Sovereign and Half Sovereign.  
 As they are exceedingly scarce, and not  
 mentioned in any indentures of this reign  
 that I have seen, nor the first indenture of


<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 11.    <sup>b</sup> Camden's Remains, ch. Money.

 Hen. VII. his son, and were too valuable to be of use at that time for current Money, it is probable they were struck, upon extraordinary occasions, only in the nature of medals, and perhaps were first coined in honour of the King's coronation, as his figure thereon, in the attitude of that solemnity, seems to intimate. We are told<sup>a</sup> such were distributed at the coronation of Queen *Mary*, and *Sovereigns* were coined in every reign afterwards to King *James* the First inclusive.

<sup>2S</sup> P. III.  
N<sup>o</sup> 26.

These *Sovereigns* have the King's figure in his royal robes, the crown on his head, sceptre in his right hand, and orb in his left, sitting upon his throne, under a canopy of *Gothick* work, the back of the throne net-work, and *femè de lis*. The epigraphe in old *English* characters, HENRICVS. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. ET. FRAN. DNS. HIBN. This is the first time we meet with the orb and cross in the King's hand upon the Coin, though it had been used<sup>b</sup> upon other occasions by almost all our Kings from *Edward the Confessor*, the sceptre being likewise surmounted with the cross patten, or St. *Edward's* cross, of which

<sup>a</sup> Evelyn, p. 91.    <sup>b</sup> Selden's Tit. Honour, p. 183.

crosses the crown is likewise composed, Hen. VII.  
 different from all his predecessors. Reverse,   
 a large, full-blown, or double rose, in respect of the union of the two houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, as we see upon his stately monument in his chapel at *Westminster*. In the centre of the rose, a plain escutcheon of the arms of *France* and *England*, quarterly, IHESVS. AVTEM. TRANSIENS. PER. MEDIUM. ILLORVM. IBAT. The mint-mark a dragon, which was one of his supporters. This agrees exactly with the draught in *Speed*, which he has misplaced to *Henry* the Sixth, who did not coin any such pieces.

A quadruple Noble, or. Double Sovereign, has exactly the same stamp.

There is another Sovereign with a portcullis at the King's feet, which some have therefore attributed to this *Henry*. It is true, that *Henry* the Seventh assumed this badge of the portcullis, in respect of his mother's descent<sup>a</sup> from the *Beauforts*; that as the portcullus was an additional security to the gate, so his descent from his mother strengthened his other titles; from which devise he also instituted the *Pursuivant at*

<sup>a</sup> Sandford, p. 463. Notes.

Hen. VII. *Arms*, called *Portcullis*. But as *Henry* the Eighth likewise used the badge of the portcullis, and some of these *Sovereigns*, by their weight, are undoubtedly his, it is not improbable but they may all be so.

The statute of the nineteenth of *Henry* the Seventh likewise mentions Half Sovereigns, which must be the exact value of the Rial, and therefore, as no such pieces (I think) have yet been discovered, it is probable there never were any coined.

The Rials were like the former *Henry's*.

The Angel has St. *Michael* killing the dragon, like the Angel of *Henry* the Sixth, but a better dye, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. AGLI. Z. FRA. Reverse, like the former *Henry*, but instead of the *fleur de lis*, has a rose like *Edward* the Fourth's, PER. CRUCE. TVA. SALVA. NOS. XPE. RED. One of these Angels I have seen stamped with the arms of *Zealand*, (done in Queen *Elizabeth's* reign) to make it current in that province.

2 S. P. III.  
N<sup>o</sup> 25.

Besides the *English* gold Coins, there is a curious piece struck by this King in *France*, in the year 1492, and the eighth of his reign, when pretending to assert his title to that kingdom, he laid siege to

*Bul-*



*Bulloigne.* This has the King's figure, Hen. VII.  
 standing in a ship, like the *English* Rial or Noble, the side of the ship being charged with roses, and the King crowned with a double-arched crown *fleuri*; at the head of the ship a banner, inscribed with the initial letter of his name, and at the stern another banner of the dragon, the ancient *British* standard, which, as descended from *Cadwalladar*, he used<sup>a</sup> at *Bosworth*, and after the victory offered up at *St. Paul's*. This red dragon he likewise used for one of his supporters, and commemorated by the institution of *Rougedragon*, Pursuivant at Arms. Epigraphe, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANG. Z. FRANC. DNS. IBAR. Reverse, the double full-blown rose, like the *Sovereign*, and the same legend, but with the single arms of *France* in the centre.

This piece, from the stamp of the Rial on one side, and rose on the other, may not improperly be called a Rose-Rial, and by the value might either be a Rial, or a Half Sovereign. It is certainly now a great curiosity, but was formerly more common, for I find draughts of it in two<sup>b</sup> *Dutch*

<sup>a</sup> Sandford, p. 464. Notes. <sup>b</sup> Fo. Antwerp, 1633, 4to. Gravenhague, 1626.

Hen. VII. placards for Coins, in 1626, and 1633, as a species of Money then current.

In the third plate of Coins published by the society of Antiquaries of *London*, there is likewise an extraordinary silver Coin, supposed to be struck in *Flanders*, by order of the Dutchess of *Burgundy*, for the use of *Perkin Warbeck*; having within a rose of four leaves, a *fleur de lis*, and lion of *England* under a crown; and at bottom a rose, MANI. TECHEL. PHARES. 1498, alluding<sup>a</sup> to the hand-writing upon the wall at *Belshazzar's* impious feast. Reverse, the arms of *France* and *England* quarterly, under an arched crown *fleur*i, and on the sides of the shield, a *fleur de lis*, and rose crowned, all within a rose, DOMINE. SALVVM. FAC. REGEM. (*Psal*m xx. v. 9.)

It does not appear that *Henry* the Seventh coined any Money in *Ireland*.

<sup>a</sup> Daniel, ch. 5, v. 25.

## HENRY VIII. A. D. 1509.

THE state of this King's Money was H. VIII.  
 like his mind and humour, very changeable  
 and uncertain. In the beginning of his  
 reign he imitated his father in his Coin,  
 but afterwards both gold and silver were  
 debased; *Henry* the Eighth, first of all the  
 Kings of *England*<sup>a</sup>, mixing the Money  
 with brass, to the dishonour of the king-  
 dom, and the damage of his successors and  
 people, leaving thereby a notable example  
 of riot and prodigality, considering that his  
 father left him more wealth than any other  
 King of *England* ever left to his successor.

In his first year is an indenture<sup>b</sup> with  
*William* Lord *Montjoy*, master of the King's  
 mints in *England* and *Calais*, for coining  
 Money of the same goodness and value as  
 his father's, viz. Rials, at ten Shillings  
 each, forty-five to the pound; Half Rials  
 and Quarter Rials, Angels, sixty-seven and  
 half to the pound, at six Shillings and  
 Eightpence each, and Angelets; and of

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Eliz. fol. Lond. 1688, p. 49.

<sup>b</sup> Claus. 1 H. 8, N° 20.

H. VIII. silver Groats, a hundred and twelve and a half to the pound, Half Groats, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings. The gold of the old standard twenty-three carrats, three grains and a half fine, and half a grain allay, and the silver of eleven ounces two pennyweights fine, and eighteen pennyweights allay, which is called the old right standard of the sterling of *England*.

In his fifteenth year it was enacted<sup>a</sup>, that of every hundred Pounds worth of gold coined at any mints within the realm of *England*, (except *York*, *Duresm*, and *Canterbury*) twenty Pounds thereof should be in Half Angels, commonly called pieces of gold of Forty-pence, and every hundred Pounds worth of silver should be coined half into Groats, twenty Pounds in Half Groats, called Pence of Twopence, ten Marks in Halfpence, and five Marks in Farthings: and all persons bringing bullion to the mint to be coined, under the value aforesaid, were to receive the tenth part in Halfpence and Farthings. And, because Halfpence and Farthings had so near a resemblance to each other, being struck with one Coin, that the common

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 14 and 15 H. 8, cap. 12.



people often mistook the one for the other, H. VIII.  
 all Farthings afterwards made within the }  
 realm, were to have on one side the print  
 of the portcullis, and on the other side the  
 rose with a cross. Of this last sort I have  
 never seen any; but the former Halfpence  
 and Farthings struck with one Coin, I ap-  
 prehend, had the King's head full faced,  
 and crowned, H. D. G. ROSA. SIE. SPI.  
 Reverse, CIVITAS. LONDON. for such are  
 extant, and by their weight belong to this  
 Prince.

In his eighteenth year there was a great  
 scarcity of Money, and the causes being  
 enquired into, it was found to be owing  
 to the transportation that had been made  
 into the *Low Countries*, and the only re-  
 medy found, was to raise the Money at  
 home, to the same price it passed abroad.  
 Hitherto we are told <sup>a</sup> the Angel-Noble  
 was the sixth part of an ounce, in value six  
 Shillings and Eightpence, which in silver  
 was two ounces. Thus the proportion of  
 silver to gold was twelve to one. Again,  
 (says our author) an ounce of silver (or  
 Half Angel) passed for three Shillings and  
 Fourpence; so twelve ounces, or a pound,

<sup>a</sup> Herbert's Life of H. 8. Stow, p. 527. Annals.

H. VIII. was just forty Shillings, but the sixth of September, by proclamation, the value of both being raised one tenth part, the Angel was seven Shillings and Fourpence, which was the value it then passed at in the *Low Countries*; the Royal eleven Shillings, and the Crown, (meaning \* the old *French* Crown) at four Shillings and Fourpence; and consequently the ounce of gold was forty-four Shillings, and the ounce of silver three Shillings and Eightpence, the proportion being (*ut supra*) twelve to one. The benefit of this soon appeared, that the fifth of *November* following, there was another proclamation, raising the Money one forty-fourth part; so that the Angel was seven Shillings and Sixpence, the ounce of gold forty-five Shillings, and the ounce of Silver three Shillings and Ninepence; and by this means much of our gold was brought back again.

By this it appears, that the gold Money had been lessened in weight long before his eighteenth year, in the following proportion, viz. the Angel from sixty-seven and a half to the pound, making twenty-two Pounds ten Shillings in tale, and weigh-

\* Stow, p. 912.

ing each three pennyweights, thirteen grains, one fourth, to three pennyweights, eight grains, making seventy-two to the pound, and in tale twenty-four pound. By the first proclamation in *September*, the pound was raised to twenty-six Pound eight Shillings, and by the last proclamation to twenty-seven Pounds. So, in like manner, the pound of silver, which in the beginning of his reign made thirty-seven Shillings and and Sixpence in tale, viz. a hundred and twelve Groats and a half, each weighing two pennyweights three grains, had been raised to forty Shillings in tale, or a hundred and twenty Groats, weighing two pennyweights each ; and by the two proclamations raised to forty-five Shillings in tale, or a hundred and thirty-five Groats to the pound, and consequently reduced in weight to one pennyweight, eighteen grains and a half. And according to this proportion, both of gold and silver, there was an indenture<sup>a</sup> with *Ralph Rowlet* and *Martin Bowes*, masters and workers, which Mr. *Lownds* has misplaced to the first of *Henry the Eighth*. By this indenture the pound of gold was to make twenty-seven Pounds

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 41.

H. VIII. in tale, viz. Sovereigns, twenty-four to the pound, at twenty-two Shillings and Sixpence a-piece, or forty-eight Rials, at eleven Shillings and Threepence each, or seventy-two Angels, at seven Shillings and Sixpence, or eighty-one *George* Nobles at six Shillings and Eightpence, or a hundred and forty-four Half Angels at three Shillings and Ninepence, or a hundred and sixty-two Forty-penny Pieces, at three Shillings and Fourpence. And a pound weight of gold, of the fineness of twenty-two carrats only, was to be coined into a hundred Crowns and a half of the double rose, or two hundred and one Half Crowns, making by tale twenty-five Pounds, two Shillings and Sixpence. And a pound weight of silver of the old sterling, was to make one hundred and thirty-five Groats, or two hundred and seventy Half Groats, or five hundred and forty Sterlings, (*i. e.* Pence) or a proportionable number of Halfpence and Farthings, the pound of silver making forty-five Pounds by tale: and there is the like indenture <sup>a</sup> in his twenty-fifth year.

This was the first coinage<sup>b</sup> of *George* Nobles and Crowns of the rose, and the

<sup>a</sup> 25 H. 8, p. 1. Claus. m. 38.    <sup>b</sup> Stow, p. 912.



first alteration in the standard of the gold H. VIII.  
 Money, which had hitherto been all of }  
 the old standard of twenty-three carrats,  
 three grains, and a half fine, and half a  
 grain allay.

In his twenty-second year, an author tells us<sup>a</sup>, Cardinal *Wolsey* had a commission granted to him for the alteration of the Coin, which brought in great confusion among the values of Money; and, together with the excessive quantities of gold and silver, about that time brought into *Christendom* from the *West-Indies*, was the occasion that the statute of labourers and servants was no further observed; the prices of all things being enhanced, they could not live upon their statute wages: but this seems to be a mistake throughout, for the Cardinal was impeached in the twenty-first of *Henry* the Eighth, and there was no alteration in the Money from his eighteenth till his thirty-fourth year.

In the thirty-fourth year of *Henry* the Eighth, the masters and workers (as in the former) by indenture<sup>b</sup> contracted to coin gold of twenty-three carrats fine, and one allay, into Sovereigns at twenty Shil-

<sup>a</sup> Vaughan of Coining, p. 113.    <sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 22, 43.

H. VIII. lings, Half Sovereigns at ten Shillings, Angels at eight Shillings, Angelets at four Shillings, and Quarter Angels at two Shillings each, (which was the first debasement of these species) making twenty-eight Pounds in tale. And the standard of the silver was now first debased, from the ancient standard or sterling of *England*, to only ten ounces fine, and two ounces allay, making forty-eight Shillings in tale, to be coined into *Testoons*, going for Twelvepence a piece, Groats, Half-Groats, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings.

And by proclamation<sup>a</sup>, the sixteenth of *May*, 1544, and the thirty-sixth of his reign, gold was raised to forty-eight Shillings, and silver to four Shillings the ounce.

The same year, by indenture<sup>b</sup> with Sir *Martin Bowes*, and others, a pound of gold of the fineness of twenty-two carrats, which, in his eighteenth year made twenty-five Pounds, two Shillings, and Sixpence in Coin, was now to make thirty Pounds by tale, in Sovereigns at twenty Shillings, Half Sovereigns, Crowns at five Shillings each, and Half Crowns; so that the King

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Annals, p. 587.      <sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 43.

had two carrats of fine gold for coinage, H. VIII.  
 which yielded him fifty Shillings. The  
 pound of silver, as before, to make forty-  
 eight Shillings in tale, though but half  
 fine and half allay; and the next year it  
 was still worse<sup>a</sup>, the gold being only twenty  
 carrats fine, and the silver but four ounces  
 fine, and eight ounces allay, whereby the  
 pound of pure gold was raised to thirty-  
 six Pounds, and the pound of fine silver to  
 seven Pounds four Shillings. This base  
 Money, for the time, caused the old ster-  
 ling Money to be hoarded up, so that I have  
 seen (says *Stow*<sup>b</sup>) twenty-one Shillings  
 given for an old Angel, to gild withal.  
 Also rent of lands and tenements, with  
 prices of victuals, were raised' far beyond  
 the former rates, hardly since to be brought  
 down.

The gold Coins of *Henry* the Eighth,  
 as we have observed, were Sovereigns, Half  
 Sovereigns, Rials, Half and Quarter Rials,  
 Angels, Angelets, and Quarter Angels,  
*George* Nobles, Forty-penny Pieces, Crowns  
 of the double rose, and Half Crowns.

His first Sovereigns are of the same

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 44.

<sup>b</sup> *Stow's Survey of London* by

*Strype*, p. 84.

H. VIII. goodnefs and value as his father's, but have a different ftamp, and are confiderably broader; the inner circle is ingrailed, the points terminating in croffes or flowers *de lis*: it has no canopy over the king, who is fitting in an armed chair, each arm furred with a crofs patonce, as upon the fcepter in his hand, and at his feet his badge of the portcullis. As thefe agree in weight, and no number is added to the name to diftinguifh the father and the fon from each other, and the portcullis was a badge common to both, fome think they may belong to *Henry* the Seventh. But as he coined Sovereigns without the portcullis, and we are not certain he ever ufed that badge upon his Money, as his fon did, and may be feen likewife<sup>a</sup> upon two famous medals of his, it feems more probable they were the fon's than the father's. Befides the weight of fome of thefe, which, though very fair, hardly reach ten pennyweights, demonftrate that thofe, at leaft, are the fon's, and is a ftrong prefumption that the others, which they exactly refemble, are fo too. The reverse of thefe are like his father's. There were no Half Sovereigns of this fort.

<sup>a</sup> See Evelyn's Numismata, p. 87, 88.



The Sovereign after his thirty-third year, H. VIII.  
 when he stiled himself King of *Ireland*, as 1 S.P.IV.  
 it is less in weight, so it is in size, but ex- Nº 36.  
 hibits the King's figure sitting in the same  
 manner, only the chair has two angels  
 upon the arms instead of crosses. His  
 crown is likewise composed of crosses and  
*fleurs de lis*, and the scepter in his hand  
*fleuri*, which continued in use till the re-  
 storation, though it is otherwise upon his  
 great seal. These have likewise, instead  
 of the portcullis at his feet, the double  
 rose, the epigraphe in old *English* cha-  
 racters, HENRIC. 8. DI. GRA. AGL.  
 FRANCIE. Z. HIBERN. REX. Reverse,  
 the arms of *France* and *England* quarterly,  
 in a shield crowned, supported on the  
 dexter-side by a lion, crowned with an open  
 crown, and on the sinister by a dragon,  
 (whereas, in the former part of his reign,  
 he bore the dragon on the right, and a  
 greyhound on the left, like his father)  
 which supporters were continued by his  
 three children that succeeded him, except  
 after Queen *Mary's* marriage<sup>a</sup>, she used an  
 eagle on the right, and a lion rampant  
 guardant on the left side. Upon a pedestal

<sup>a</sup> Sandford, p. 479, 499.

H. VIII. under the shield is his monogram, and circumscribed with the usual legend, of *INS. AVTEM*, &c. an s. the mint-mark: Another has a w for the mint-mark. The Half has the title of *Ireland* abbreviated to *HIB.*

Another sort has a chair of a different fashion, with larger angels upon the arms. The supporters on the reverse being properly standing, whereas in the former they are rather sitting; and they have the inscription in *Roman* minuscules, and i. the mint-mark.

I have never seen any of his Rials, but probably they are so like his father's, as not to be known from them.

The Angel is like his father's, *HENRICVS. VIII. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. ET. FRA.* Reverse, the ship and arms, &c. *PER. CRUCE. TVA. SALVA. NOS. XPE. REDETO.* an inescutcheon with St. George's cross the mint-mark. This, in some of the *Dutch* Placarts, is called the *Old Angelot.*

Another, *HENRIC. 8. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX.* This last has an annulet on the side of the ship, commonly called a *gun-hole.*

The

The Angelet, or Half Angel, commonly H. VIII.  
 called<sup>a</sup> from its value the piece of Forty-  
 pence, is like the Angel, HENRIC. VIII.  
 DI. GRA. REX. AGL. Reverse, the ship,  
 &c. CRVX. AVE. SPES. VNICA. a portcullis  
 crowned the mint-mark. But by the  
 indenture in his eighteenth year, when  
 the Angel was raised to seven Shillings and  
 Sixpence, and the Half Angel to three  
 Shillings and Ninepence, there is, besides  
 these, mention<sup>b</sup> of Fortypenny Pieces, a  
 hundred and sixty-two to the pound, which  
 was just half the weight and value of the  
*George Nobles*; and therefore it is most  
 likely they had the same stamp; but whe-  
 ther they bore the impresson of the *George*  
*Noble*, or the Angel, I do not know.

The Quarter Angel, HENRIC. VIII. DI.  
 GRA. REX. AGL. Reverse, FRANCIE. ET.  
 HIBERNIE. REX. a *fleur de lis* the mint-  
 mark.

The *George Noble* has the ship like the 2 S. P. III.  
*Noble Angel*, with a cross for the mast, N<sup>o</sup> 27.  
 and the initial letters H. and R. on the  
 sides of the mast; and in the place of the  
 shield of arms, a large rose, HENRIC. DI.  
 GR. AGL. Z. FRANC. DNS. HIBERNI.

<sup>a</sup> St. 14 and 15 H. 8, c. 12. <sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 41. Indent.

H. VIII. Or, HENRICVS. DI. GR. ANG. Z. FRA. DNS. HIBER. Reverse, St. *George* with his spear killing the dragon, TALIDICATA. SIGNO. MENS. FLVCTVARE. NEQVIT. a rose the mint-mark.

Another fort has St. *George* trampling on the dragon, with a drawn sword in his hand, and the ship has three crosses or masts, but wants the initial letters; HENRICVS. D. G. R. ANG. Z. FRANC. DNS. HI. and a rose the mint-mark.

The crowns of the double rose, have on one side a double rose, crowned with a crown, composed of crosses patonce, which upon the silver Money, is only found in those of the first coinage. On the sides of the rose, the letters H. R. crowned,

<sup>1</sup>S.P.IV. HENRIC. VIII. RVTILANS. ROSA. SIE.  
N<sup>o</sup> 37. SPINA. Reverse, the arms under a like crown, between the letters as before, DEI. GRA. AGLIE. Z. FRA. DNS. HIBERNIE, a pheon the mint-mark.

Another, HENRIC. 8. RVTILANS. ROSA. SINE. SPI. and H. R. as before. Reverse, DI. GRA. AGLI. FRANC. Z. HIB. REX. An annulet the mint-mark.

Others, instead of H. R. have H. K. for *Henry* and *Katharine*, a rose or cinqfoil the



the mint-mark : or H. I. for *Henry* and *H. VIII.*  
*Jane*. Another has the crown composed of crosses, and *fleurs de lis*, and the legend in *Roman* characters.

The Half Crowns have the initial letters without crowns above them. H. D. G. RVTILANS. ROSA. SINE. SPI. Reverse, RVTILANS, ROSA. SINE. SPI. One has H. K. the rose crowned, and the legend, RVTILANS, &c. and upon the reverse the arms crowned, between H. K. HENRIC. 8. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRA.

There is likewise a crown, having on one side the arms crowned, HENRIC. 8. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRAC. and on the other side a cross *fleuri*, with a large rose in the centre; and in the quarters alternately the initial letters of his name crowned, and a lion of *England*, HENRIC. VIII. RVTILANS. ROSA. SINE. SPIN. a lion passant guardant the mint-mark.

The first Groats of *Henry* the Eighth have the half face, looking to the left, as like his father's as possible, HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. AGL. Z. FRA. in others abbreviated to FR. Reverse, the arms of *France* and *England* quarterly, divided by the old cross, POSVI. DEV. ADIVTORE.

**H. VIII.** MEV. The Half Groats generally want the title of *France*, and have the crosses of the crown all of equal height; whereas upon the Groats they have alternately a larger and a smaller cross: mint-marks a port-cullis crowned, a castle, &c.

A Half Groat of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*'s mint, CIVITAS. CANTOR. and the arms between WA. for Archbishop *Warham*; the mint-mark, a *Canterbury* cross, or long cross patè, fitched in the foot. Another with WA. instead of the place of mintage, has the motto, POSVI, &c.

A Groat of Cardinal *Wolfsey*'s mint, as Archbishop of *York*, HENRIC. VIII. D. G. REX. AGL. Z. FRAC. Reverse, CIVITAS. EBORACI. On the sides of the shield of arms, T. W. for *Thomas Wolfsey*, and underneath is the Cardinal's hat. A Half Groat of the same mint, has the hat in like manner, and on each side, above it, between the hat and the bottom of the shield, is a key, being part of the arms of the Archbishoprick. It was an article of the Cardinal's impeachment, That he presumptuously imprinted the Cardinal's hat under the King's arms upon his Majesty's Coins  
of

of Groats, made at *York*, which had never been done by any subject before : so that his crime was not for coining Money with the Cardinal's hat thereon ; for the smaller Coins, which bore the same stamp, are not taken notice of ; but for coining Groats, which had never been done by any subject before : but as to small Money, it had been immemorially coined in the Bishop's mints at *Canterbury*, *York*, and *Durham*. But this power dwindled away with the Pope's authority here, and was discontinued after this reign, *Edward Lee*, *Wolfey's* successor, being the last that used this privilege. H. VIII.

The King had likewise a mint at *York*, for there is a Groat with CIVITAS. EBORACI. And, after the dissolution<sup>a</sup>, he had a mint at *Canterbury*, where, it is said, he coined Money for the service of the *French* wars.

The Groat of the next coinage, has the King's bust, with the face in profile, turned to the left, the contrary way from the former, and not so good a dye : the crown composed of crosses patè and *fleurs de lis*, as it was continued afterwards by him and all his successors, HENRIC. VIII. D. G. R.

<sup>a</sup> Somner's Antiq. Cant. 4to. Lond. 1640, p. 124.

H. VIII. AGL. Z. FRANC. OR FRANCE. Reverse, the arms and crofs like the former, and the ſame legend.

Mr. *Thoreſby*<sup>a</sup> mentions, under this reign, a *Durham* Groat, good Money, a little broader than the Penny, but two grains heavier than the ſtrict ſtandard for the Groat, having the King's figure fitting, in his robes, as upon the Penny, and the ſame legend, H. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, CIVITAS. DURHAM. with CD. or B. by the arms, perhaps, (ſays he) for *Chriſtopher Bambridge*, Biſhop of *Durham*, 1507. But this Biſhop was tranſlated to *York* before this reign; and as there is a Penny of the ſame mint, having the letters CD. for the mint-mark, and we have no inſtance of the Biſhop's coining Groats, except *Wolfey*, it was, no doubt, the letters of the minter, and, by the ſize, the Penny ſtamp.

The Half Groats have generally the title of *France* abbreviated to FR. Mint-marks, a *fleur de lis*, a pheon, a roſe, a cinqfoil, &c.

The Half Groat of *Canterbury* mint, CIVITAS. CANTOR. has the arms between

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 259.



WA. a cross *flory* the mint-mark, or a *fleur de lis*. Another with WA. has the legend, POSVI, &c. Another of the same mint with TC. for *Thomas Cranmer* Archbishop; a Catherine wheel the mint-mark. H. VIII.

One of *York* mint, CIVITAS. EBORACI. and EL. for *Edward Lee*, Archbishop, and a Halfpenny the like.

The Groats of his thirty-fourth and thirty-sixth years, have his head almost full faced, and on these he has the title of King of *Ireland*, which he was proclaimed <sup>a</sup> the twenty-third of *January*, in his thirty-third year, HENRIC. 8. D. GRA. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REX. This is bad silver, but a Half Groat of the same kind, CIVITAS. CANTOR. is much worse metal.

Of the very bad Money of his thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh years, are two sorts, one having the head almost full faced, like the former; the other having the head something more inclined to the left, the same epigraph and reverse as the foregoing.

Pennies, with the epigraph, H. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. A base sort has the very full face, crowned. Reverse, the arms and cross, CIVITAS. CANTOR. Another, S. P. IV. N<sup>o</sup> 34.

<sup>a</sup> Stow, p. 583.

H. VIII. of the worst Money, has the face inclining to the left, CIVITAS. LONDON. The fine Money with this legend has the King's figure sitting in his robes, with crown, sceptre, and orb, CIVITAS. CANTOR. Reverse, the arms and cross, with TC. a large rose the mint-mark. Another, CIVITAS. DURHAM. a crescent the mint-mark. Whether any of those with the name and titles, ascribed to *Henry* the Seventh, do belong to this King, can only be determined by the initial letters of the Bishops, which those who have the opportunity to examine a great number of these pieces may perhaps be able to ascertain.

1 S. P. IV. N° 35. The portcullis Farthings, by the statute, were to have on the reverse a rose, but I have never seen or heard of any such : but there are Farthings having on one side the portcullis, and on the other the cross and pellets, which probably were coined in their stead.

His Shilling was called *Tesloon*<sup>a</sup>, from the *Italian*, because it had the King's head upon it, wherein this King seems to have imitated the *French*, who, in 1513, coined

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, xi. 259.

pieces of that denomination; but much more properly called Shillings, as in his father's time, from their value, and therefore by his name they were ever afterwards known. These Shillings, of fine silver, have his half face, like his first Groats, and CIVITAS. EBORACI. on the reverse, instead of POSVI, &c. H. VIII.

Another Shilling, in his thirty-fourth year, has his bust, with a full face, and crowned; HENRICVS. 8. DEI. GRA. AGL. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the double rose crowned between HR. crowned, POSVI. DEVM. ADIVTOREM. MEVM. These were afterwards intolerably debased. 1 S.P.IV.  
N<sup>o</sup> 32.

His *Tournay* Groat, struck there when he took that city, *anno* 1513, exactly resembles the *English* Groat of his first coinage; HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. FRANC. Z. AGL. Reverse, the arms and cross, CIVITAS. TORNACEN. a *Saxon* T. crowned for the mint-mark.

Another has the arms crowned, HENRIC. 8. DI. GRA. FRANC. Z. ANGLIE. R. Reverse, the old rose and cross, with the double rose in the centre, CIVITAS. TORNACENSIS. 1513. This was the last Money coined by any of our Kings in *France*. 2 S.P.III.  
N<sup>o</sup> 29.

There

H. VIII.

There is likewise a Crown Piece of silver of this King, which, like the Shilling of his father, seems only a design for such a Coin, and in the nature of a Medal, upon occasion of his taking upon him the title of supreme head of the church; and thereby disclaiming the Pope's authority, which was afterwards, in 1545, commemorated by a noble medallion<sup>a</sup>, the reason perhaps, why these Crown Pieces were not made current, and are now such great rarities. This famous Crown has his demy-full figure, the face a little inclined to the left, crowned, and holding in his right hand a drawn sword, resting upon his shoulder, and in his left the orb with the cross, as ready to defend his dominion and faith by the sword; HENRIC. 8. DEI. GRACIA. ANGLIE. FRANCI. Z. HIBERN. REX. Reverse, the arms crowned, and supporters like his latter sovereign. ANGLICE. Z. HIBERNICE. ECCLESIE. SUPRE-MVM CAPVT. the same title as upon his great seal, the King, by authority of parliament<sup>b</sup>, in 1534, being declared supreme head of the church of *England*,

<sup>a</sup> Evelyn, p. 88.<sup>b</sup> St. 26 H. 8, cap. 1.

called



called *Anglicana Ecclesia*. By the title of H. VIII.  
 King of *Ireland* upon this crown, it appears }  
 not to have been coined till after *January*,  
 in his thirty-third year, when he was pro-  
 claimed King in *Ireland*.

In *Ireland*<sup>a</sup> he coined new Groats, Two-  
 pences, and Pennies, in his thirty-second  
 year, which were not to be exported into  
*England*, under the forfeiture of treble the  
 value, with fine and imprisonment. These I S. P. IV.  
 have on one side the King's arms, divided N<sup>o</sup> 38.  
 by the old cross, and crowned with an  
 arched crown, consisting of crosses and  
*fleurs de lis*; HENRIC. VIII. D. G. R. AGL. Z.  
 Reverse, a harp crowned between HR.  
 crowned; FRANCI, or FRANCIE. DO-  
 MINVS. HIHERNIE.

The next year he assumed the title of  
 King of *Ireland*, which was proclaimed the  
 twenty-third of *January* 1542, in his  
 thirty-third year. After which time we  
 have Groats like the former, but coarser  
 metal, and with a different epigraphe;  
 HENRIC. VIII. DI. GRACIA. ANGLIE.  
 Reverse, FRANCIE. ET. HIBERNIE. REX.

In his thirty-sixth year was an inden-  
 ture<sup>b</sup> with *Martin Bowes*, and others, for

<sup>a</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 164. Thor. 260. <sup>b</sup> Mint-Books.

H. VIII. making two manner of monies for *Ireland*, eight ounces fine silver, and four ounces allay, which was one ounce coarser than the *English* of the same year: Sixpences *Irish* at Fourpence, the pound to contain a hundred and forty-four; and Threepences at Twopence, two hundred and eighty-eight to the pound. One of the Sixpences weighed one pennyweight sixteen grains, which was the exact weight of an *English* Groat. These exactly resemble his *English* bad Money, having his head crowned, a little inclining to the left, HENRIC. 8. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX. in *Roman* characters. Reverse, the arms divided by the old cross, CIVITAS. DVBLINIE. a p. the mint-mark.

Some of these have H. I. for *Henry* and *Jane*, H. A. for *Henry* and *Anne*, and H. K. for *Henry* and *Katharine*.

EDWARD VI. A. D. 1546-7.

THE corruptions made in the Money <sup>Edw. VI.</sup> by King *Henry* the Eighth, were continued by the guardians of King *Edward*, to the great dishonour of the realm, and injury of the people, till this young Prince, with an application beyond his years, set himself to the remedying this inconvenience, which yet was not effected till towards the close of his reign.

His first coinage was like the last, and worst of his father's, the pound of gold making thirty pounds in tale, though but twenty carrats fine, by which the King had a great profit: and the pound of silver making forty-eight Shillings by tale, though but one third fine; so that every pound of fine silver made seven Pounds four Shillings in Money, and the King's profit on every such pound was four Pounds four Shillings. For this coinage<sup>a</sup> *John York* and others were constituted masters and workers at the mint at *Southwark*, *Sir Martin Bowes* for the *Tower*, and *William Tilsforth* at *Canterbury*; and, in the

<sup>a</sup> Lownds.

Edw. VI. second year *George Gale*, under the same covenants for the mint at *York*. As base Money is most liable to be counterfeited, there was a great deal at this time, and as if it had been a fashionable vice, we find persons above the vulgar sort concerned in this practice. Sir *William Sherrington*<sup>a</sup> was indicted, and attainted by confession of high treason, for counterfeiting of *Testoons*, to the value of no less than twelve thousand pounds, and, probably, did not confess the whole: and one *Francis Digby*<sup>b</sup>, gentleman, was convicted for counterfeiting Shillings, Groats, Rials, and Crowns.

In his third year<sup>c</sup>, a pound of gold of twenty-two carrats fine, was coined into Sovereigns at twenty Shillings each; Half Sovereigns, Crowns at five Shillings each, and Half Crowns, making thirty Pounds by tale; and a pound of silver, of six ounces fine and six allay, was coined into seventy-two Shillings, to go for twelve Pence a-piece by tale, of which the merchant, for every pound weight of fine silver, received three Pounds four Shillings, and the

<sup>a</sup> St. 2 and 3 E. 6, c. 17.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 15, p. 292.

<sup>c</sup> Lownds, p. 46.



King above four Pounds gain, by a Com-  
mission to Sir *Edmund Peckham*, and others. Edw. VI.

The next year the gold was brought to its ancient purity of twenty-three carrats, three grains and a half fine, and half a grain allay, which was coined into Sovereigns at twenty-four Shillings, Half Sovereigns, Angels at eight Shillings, and Half Angels; the pound making by tale twenty-eight Pounds sixteen Shillings. But the silver grew worse, for the following year Shillings were coined only one fourth part fine, seventy-two to the pound; by which means, twelve ounces of fine silver was exorbitantly raised to fourteen Pounds eight Shillings. But in *July*, the same year, the base Money, both his own and his father's, was reduced<sup>a</sup> by proclamation one fourth part, and the next month to one half, viz. the Shilling to Sixpence, the Groat to Twopence, the Half Groat to a Penny, and the Penny to an Halfpenny; which took effect immediately after the proclamation was made.

The thirtieth of *October* 1551, and the fifth year of his reign, the gold Money was raised<sup>b</sup>, and, with the following Coins,

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Annals, 1551, AR. 5, p. 605, 606.

<sup>b</sup> Ib.

Edw. VI. made current by proclamation, viz. A whole Sovereign of fine gold thirty Shillings, another piece of fine gold, called an Angel, of ten Shillings, the third piece, called an Angelet, of fine gold of five Shillings, another piece of crown gold, called a Sovereign, of twenty Shillings, the Half of ten Shillings, the third piece of crown gold of five Shillings, the fourth piece of crown gold of two Shillings and Sixpence.

A piece of silver of five Shillings sterling, the second piece of two Shillings and Sixpence sterling, the third piece a Shilling, of Twelvepence sterling, the fourth piece of Sixpence sterling; of smaller Money, a Penny of the double rose, not sterling, but base; an Halfpenny of the single rose, the third piece, a Farthing, with a portclove.

These silver Crowns, though not strictly the first silver Money of that species, (because a few such pieces were coined by his father) yet are the first that were made current Money, and bear date in 1551, as *Stow* rightly informs us: and these are likewise the first Half Crowns of silver, and the

the first Sixpences we meet with of *English* Edw. VI.  
Money. }

The next year, by indenture<sup>a</sup>, a pound weight of gold, of the old standard afore-said, was coined into thirty-six Pounds by tale; and a pound weight of crown gold into thirty-three Pounds by tale, in the several species as before-mentioned; and a pound weight of silver of eleven ounces one pennyweight fine, and nineteen pennyweights allay, was coined into three Pounds by tale, viz. in Crowns, Half Crowns, Shillings, Sixpences, Threepences, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings. The Threepences coined by this indenture were the first Money of that species coined in *England*, for such pieces had been coined in *Ireland* under *Edward* the Fourth.

Upon the Coinage of this good new Money, it seems, the same was bought up with the old bad Money at a premium, and hoarded, the natural consequence of permitting good and bad to be current at the same time: wherefore it was enacted<sup>b</sup>, that if any person, after the first of *April* next following, should exchange any

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 47.

<sup>b</sup> St. 5 and 6 E. 6, cap. 19.

Edw. VI. coined gold, coined silver, or Money, receiving or paying any more in value than the same was, or should be declared by the King's proclamation to be current for, the Money so exchanged should be forfeited, and the party suffer fine and imprisonment.


The base Money of King *Edward*, contrary to that of his father, has the side face, with *Roman* characters, and the fine, the full face, the old *English* characters. The base Shilling has the King's head in profile, crowned, EDWARD. VI. D. GRA. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX. Reverse, INIMICOS. EIVS. INDVAM. CONFUSIONE. (*Psalms* CXXXii. v. 19.) having the arms in a round shield, garnished, between ER.

1 S.P.IV. Another has a different legend, TIMOR.  
N<sup>o</sup> 39. DOMINI. FON. VITÆ. MDXLIX. One of *York* mint has Y. for the mint-mark; others are dated 1547, and 1548.

A third sort, when the Money was the lightest, has the titles about the arms, and the motto about the head. Some of these base Shillings are stamped with a port-cullis, which was done in Queen *Elizabeth's* reign, when they were reduced to Sixpence.

Mr.



Mr. *Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> mentions a Threepence of Edw. VI.  
 the bad Money, EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL.   
 FR. Z. HY. REX. Reverse, CIVITAS. CAN-  
 TOR. but it seems rather to be a Groat, for  
 the Threepence was of the fine Money.

The Shilling of the fine Money has the 1 S. Pl. V.  
 King's bust, full faced, crowned, and (in the Nº 41.  
 King's own words<sup>b</sup>) in parliament robes,  
 with a chain of the order ; but this is ma-  
 nifestly different from the collar of the  
 order appointed by the statutes<sup>c</sup> of *Henry*  
*the Eighth*, which was to be composed of  
 double roses, encompassed with the garter ;  
 whereas this has single roses of four leaves  
 only, (without garters) and knots between :  
 so that the form prescribed by the statutes  
 was not at that time strictly observed, or  
 else the graver was mistaken : and this I  
 apprehend to be the first and only *English*  
 Coin, or Medal, whereon we see the col-  
 lar of the order ; for before this the col-  
 lars are various : nor does it appear upon  
 the great seals till *James the First*. On one  
 side the King's head is a large double rose,  
 and on the other XII. for the value. The

<sup>a</sup> Nº 273.  
 Appendix.

<sup>b</sup> His Diary.

<sup>c</sup> Stat. the 38. *Ashmole*,

Edw. VI. epigraphe in old *English* characters; EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX. Reverse, an escutcheon of the arms of *France* and *England*, quarterly, divided by the old cross, POSVI. DEV. ADIVTORE. MEV. A tun the mint-mark, being of *Throgmorton's* mint in the *Tower*. The Shilling of *York* mint, which is the better stamp, has a Y. for the mint-mark, and the word *Meum* at length.

The Sixpences of each mint are exactly like the Shilling, but have VI. instead of XII.

Another sort of *York* mint has smaller characters, wants the last M in *Meum*, has a Y. and a mullet of six points for the mint-mark, and on the reverse, instead of the usual legend, has the place of coinage, CIVITAS EBORACI.

The Threepence is like the Sixpence, with III. instead of VI. and in some the titles are abbreviated to AG. FR.

There is likewise a Threepence with CIVITAS. EBORACI.

As to Groats, Twopences, Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings, this King is supposed not to have coined any.

The

The silver Crown Piece of *York* mint, <sup>Edw. VI.</sup> has the King's figure on horseback, in armour, crowned, and holding (as he expresses it in his own Diary) a drawn sword hard to his breast; the horse has large embroidered trappings, and under him the date 1551; EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIBR. REX. with a Y. for the mint-mark; the reverse like the Shilling.

The Half Crown is like the Crown, except the horse, which on that is in a rising posture, on this passant, with different trapping, and a plume of feathers upon his head. <sup>1 S. Pl. V. N<sup>o</sup> 42.</sup>

The Crown of *Throgmorton's* mint of the same year 1551, is like the former, and the Half Crown strictly like the Crown; and there are some of the next year with the date 1552.

The Crown and Half Crown with the date 1553, immediately before his death, are alike, having the horse passant, and FRAN. for *France*.

There is likewise a Crown Piece<sup>a</sup>, or piece of the value of a Crown, though little broader than a milled Shilling; having the King's head or bust in armour, with the

<sup>a</sup> Antiquary plates, N<sup>o</sup> 4.

Edw. VI. fide face, and crowned like some of the  
 { Half Sovereigns of his third year; EDWARD.  
 VI. REX. ANGL. FRANC. HIBER. Z. C.  
 Reverse, the arms in an oval shield gar-  
 nished, and in the top of the ornament the  
 letter B. being coined by Sir *Martin Bowes*<sup>a</sup>,  
 at *Durham-House* in the *Strand*, where a  
 mint was erected; epigraphe, TIMOR.  
 DOMINI. FONS. VITÆ. MDXLVII. a rose  
 the mint-mark.

Upon the first Sovereigns of *Edward* the  
 Sixth, he appears like his father, sitting  
 upon his throne, with crown, sceptre, and  
 ball, EDWARDVS. VI. DEI. GRA. ANGL.  
 FRANCI. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the  
 arms crowned, and the like supporters as  
 his father, with E. R. on the pedestal;  
 IHS. AVTEM. TRNSIENS. PER. MEDIVM.  
 ILLORV. IBAT. a pheon the mint-mark.  
 One of this sort struck at *York*, has a Y.  
 after the inscription, and the like on the  
 reverse above the arms.

The Sovereign of his sixth year, has his  
 profile figure in armour, crowned, holding  
 a drawn sword in his right hand, and the orb

<sup>a</sup> See Lord Burleigh's Letters, published by Hains, fol.  
 Lond. p. 89, 97.



in his left, EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL. FRAN. <sup>Edw. VI.</sup>  
 Z. HIBER. REX. The same reverse and le-  
 gend as the former. A tun the mint-mark.

Another of *York* mint with Y.

The Half Sovereign is like the Sove-<sup>1 S.P.IV.</sup>  
 reign, but with a different reverse, having<sup>Nº 40.</sup>  
 only a plain esccheon of the arms, crowned,  
 between the initial letters E. R.

The Half Sovereign, of his third year,<sup>2 S.P.IV.</sup>  
 of *York* mint, has his bust in armour,<sup>Nº 32.</sup>  
 crowned; EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL. FRA.  
 Z. HIB. REX. Reverse, the arms in an oval  
 shield, garnished and crowned; SCVTVM.  
 EIDEI. PROTEGIT. EVM. the mint-mark  
 a rose, others a pheon, a swan, or a bow,  
 the mark of Sir *Martin Bowes*.

Another, of the same year, has his bust<sup>2 S.P.IV.</sup>  
 in armour, bare headed; SCVTVM. FIDEI.<sup>Nº 31.</sup>  
 PROTEGIT. EVM. a rose between each  
 word. Reverse, the arms crowned as the  
 former, and E. R. with the titles, ED-  
 WARDUS. VI. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB.  
 REX.

The Angel has St. *Michael* and the dra-  
 gon as usual, EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL.  
 FR. Z. HIB. REX. Reverse, the ship, with E.  
 and a rose; an eagle's head the mint-mark.

The

Edw. VI. The Crowns of gold are like the Half Sovereigns, having the head in profile, some crowned, others bare headed; reverse, the arms in a shield garnished and crowned, with the legend *SCVTVM*, &c. but on the Half Crown the titles are abbreviated to *F. Z. H.*

Others have a rose crowned upon the reverse, between the initial letters, with the same legend.

There is also said<sup>a</sup> to be Double Rose Nobles, Double Sovereigns, and Six Angel Pieces.

In *Ireland* there was new Money coined at *Dublin*, in his second year; and in his fourth year was an indenture<sup>b</sup> with *Martin Pirri*, for coining Groats, a hundred and forty-four to the pound, with Half Groats, Pence, and Halfpence; and the last year of his reign, the Groats of too base metal were ordered to pass at Twopence. Probably, this *Irish* Money of King *Edward's* was like his father's, for I have never seen any; but there was said to be a Groat in the collection of the late Mr. *Grainger*.

<sup>a</sup> Catalogue of Mr. Grainger's Collection, Fowke's Tables.    <sup>b</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 166.

## QUEEN MARY, A. D. 1553.

ONE of the first acts of this Queen, to <sup>Q. Mary.</sup> ingratiate herself with her people, upon her accession to the throne, was the regulation of the Coin. This was done by proclamation <sup>a</sup> the fourth of *September*, wherein her Majesty calling to remembrance the great charges that had come to her, and her loving subjects, by reason of the base Monies, as well made in the realm, as counterfeited in other realms, and issued here; and resolving no longer to suffer the said inconvenience, declares, she had ordered within her mints, these several Coins, as well of silver, in fineness of the standard sterling, as also of gold, viz. the whole Sovereign of fine gold, to be current for thirty Shillings; the Half Sovereign, to be called the *Royal*, for fifteen Shillings; the Angel current for ten Shillings, and Half Angel: and of silver, the Groat, the Half Groat, and Penny: and all base Monies were to be current, at the rates declared in a proclamation made in the time of King *Edward* the Sixth; and to

<sup>a</sup> Kennet's Hist. England, L. Q. Mary, p. 335. Notes. Stow's Annals, p. 616.

Q. Mary. counterfeit foreign Coin<sup>a</sup> current within the realm, or to import false Money, was made treason. But what the proclamation calls standard sterling, was not so fine, by two pennyweights, as the old standard or sterling; for by indenture<sup>b</sup>, dated the twentieth of *August*, with *Thomas Egerton*, *Thomas Stanley*, and others, they covenant to make of gold, of the old standard, Sovereigns twenty-four to the pound, at thirty Shillings each; Rials forty-eight, at fifteen Shillings; Angels seventy-two, at ten Shillings, and Angelets at five Shillings: and of silver, eleven ounces fine, Groats, a hundred and eighty to the pound, Half Groats, and Pennies. And the sixth of *December* following, after her marriage, was a commission to the same persons, to make Shillings, sixty to the pound, Half Shillings, Quarter Shillings, and Halfpennies; according to and under the covenants of the indenture of the twentieth of *August*. The said persons had likewise the authority to make of base Monies, to be brought in by the Prince, two manner of Monies, of the standard of three ounces fine, and nine

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 1 Mary, St. 2, c. 6. 1 Ph. and M. c. 11.

<sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 24, 49. Old Mint Books.



allay, viz. Rose Pence, four hundred and eighty to the pound, and Halfpence, the pound weight to make forty Shillings in current Money. And in *November*, the second and third of *Philip* and *Mary*, the same persons were to make seven thousand pounds of the aforesaid standard of pence.

The Groat, before her marriage, has her head in profile, crowned, looking to the left; a necklace about her neck, with a cross pendant thereto, the epigraphe in old *English* characters; MARIA. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGI. Reverse, the arms of *France* and *England* quarterly, divided by the old cross; VERITAS. TEMPORIS. FILIA. taking to her device<sup>a</sup>, by persuasion of the clergy, the figure of Time drawing Truth out of a pit, and the same legend she used upon her seal before her marriage.

The Groat, after her marriage, has her head as before, but her husband's name in the legend; King *Philip* being, by the marriage articles, to take upon him the title of his wife's dominions; (and after he was King of *Spain*, he used it upon the *Spanish* Money,) PHILIP. Z. MARIA. D.

<sup>a</sup> Sandford, p. 500.

Q. Mary. G. REX. Z. REGINA. Reverse, the arms as before, POSVIMVS. DEVM. ADIVTO. NOS. a *fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

The Half Groat, PHILIP. ET. MARIA. D. G. REX. ET. REGINA. Reverse, POSVI. DEVM. ADIVTO. NOS.

1 S. PL. V. N<sup>o</sup> 43. The Shilling of *Philip* and *Mary*, has the King's bust in armour, bare headed, and about his neck the order of the *Golden Fleece*, and that of the Queen in her ordinary habit, facing her husband, like *Ferdinand* and *Isabel* of *Spain*, who are so represented upon their Coins; and, no doubt, this ambitious Prince had hopes, not only to establish the Popish religion here, but, in like manner, by this match to unite *England* to *Spain*. Over their heads is the crown of *England*, and the date 1554. PHILIP. ET. MARIA. D. G. R. ANG. FR. NEAP. PR. HISP. Reverse, a shield, with the arms of King *Philip* and Queen *Mary*, impaled under the crown, and XII. for the value; POSVIMVS. DEVM. ADIVTOREM. NOSTRVM.

Another Shilling, like the former, wants the date.

The Sixpences like the Shillings, but have VI. instead of XII.

Another

Another Shilling with the date 1555, Q. Mary.  
 when the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth, King *Philip's* father, having resigned to him the kingdom of *Spain*, the stile upon the Money is altered; PHILLIP. ET. MARIA. D. G. REX. ET. REGINA. ANG. But upon the great seal the titles were *Rex et Regina Angl. Hispaniar. Franc. utriusq. Sicilie, Jerusalem, et Hib. Fidei Defensor. &c.*

Another fair Shilling wants the last syllable in *Regina*.

A Sixpence, 1557, with the same legend, but the last words are abbreviated to AN. and NOS.

The Penny of the base Money, instead of the Queen's head, has a rose, M. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, an escheon of her arms, CIVITAS. LONDON.

The *Sovereign* has her figure sitting upon the throne, in her robes, with crown, orb, and sceptre *fleuri*, at her feet a portcullis, in all, but the form of the crown and sceptre, resembling her father's first *Sovereign*, the epigraphe in old *English* characters; MARIA, D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGINA. MDLIII. Reverse, the arms in the centre of a large double rose; A. DNO.

Q. Mary. FACTV. EST. ISTVD. Z. EST. MIRA. IN. OCVL. NRIS. These pieces Mr. *Evelyn*<sup>a</sup> miscalls Rials, and says they were scattered at her coronation.

He likewise mentions<sup>b</sup> pieces of Money, whereon Queen *Mary* is joined with her husband, in some whereof he has the title of *Angliæ Rex*: the reverse, *Bellorophon* killing the *Chimera*, representing the suppression of the western insurrection of *Wyat* and *Carew*, anno 1554, as also that of *St. Quintin*, anno 1557.

The Rial has her Majesty's figure standing in a ship, crowned with an arched crown, a sword in her right hand, and shield in her left; upon the side of the ship a rose, and in a banner at the stern a *Roman M*. The epigraphe in old characters, MARIA. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGINA. MDLIII. Reverse, the sun, &c. like *Edward* the Fourth's, and Queen *Elizabeth*'s, A. DNO. FACTV. EST. ISTVD. Z. EST. MIRABI. IN. OCVL. NRS.

Her Angel has the figure of *St. Michael*, as usual, MARIA. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGI. Reverse, like her brother's Angel, but M. instead of E. with the legend of the

<sup>a</sup> *Evelyn's Numismata*, p. 92.

<sup>b</sup> *Ibid.*



Sovereign, A. DNO. FACTV. EST. ISTVD. Q. Mary.  
 Z. EST. MIRABI. the mint-mark a fetter-  
 lock.

The Angel, after her marriage, PHILIP.  
 Z. MARIA. D. G. REX. Z. REGINA. A.  
 Reverse, instead of M. and the rose, has  
 PM. and the same legend as the others.  
 A. DNO. FACTVM. EST. ISTVD. Z. EST.  
 MIRABILE. A *fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

Camden<sup>a</sup> mentions Crowns of *Philip* and  
*Mary*, of gold, whereon was *Mundi Salus*  
*Unica*; and in a *Dutch* Placart<sup>b</sup> for Money  
 is a draught of such a piece, called a Crown  
 of *England*; by which it appears there  
 were such Coins commonly current in the  
*Low Countries*. These, according to the  
 draught, have on one side the arms of  
*Philip* and *Mary*, impaled under a crown,  
 like the Shilling, only the crown is here  
 much larger in proportion; PHI. REX. <sup>2 S. P. IV.</sup>  
 ANGL. ETC. Reverse, a device in form of <sup>N<sup>o</sup> 33.</sup>  
 a cross, the ends crowned, like what is seen  
 upon some of the larger Rials of *Charles*  
 the Fifth's father; and on some other  
*Spanish* pieces; in each quarter of the cross  
 is something like a sceptre, placed like the

<sup>a</sup> Remains, ch. Money.

<sup>b</sup> Fo. Antwerp, 1633.

Q. Mary. sceptres upon our Guineas; MVNDI. SALVS. VNICA. As there is no mention of *Queen Mary* in the titles, we may pronounce it no *English* Coin, nor yet of *Spain*, since *Spain* is not mentioned; and even upon his *Spanish* Rials, and Dollars, though he stiled himself HISP. Z. ANG. REX. yet he never put the *English* arms. By the title of *England* only, these pieces were undoubtedly coined by King *Philip* in the *Low Countries*, soon after his marriage, before he was King of *Spain*.

*Ireland.* In the proclamation for the currency of the new Money, the first year of *Queen Mary*, the realm of *Ireland* is particularly excepted, forasmuch as her Coin there had a special standard; which standard, as appears by the Shilling before her marriage, was of base allay, like what followed. And in the second year of *Philip* and *Mary*, Sir *Edmund Peckham*, Knight<sup>a</sup>, treasurer of the mint, *Thomas Stanley* comptroller, and *William Knight* assay-master, or two of them, were impowered to make of ten thousand Pounds of base Monies, to be brought in by the Prince, Shillings at Twelvepence *Irish*, forty to the

<sup>a</sup> Mint Books,

pound, or a hundred and twenty Groats, Q. Mary.  
} three ounces fine, and nine ounces allay. And by another commission, they were to coin seven thousand Pounds of the like base Monies for *Ireland*. And in the third and fourth of *Philip* and *Mary* was another commission for coining five thousand five hundred Pounds of base Monies, to be converted into Harp Groats for *Ireland*, of the same standard.

The Shilling before her marriage, of base allay, has her head crowned, MARIA. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGINA. Reverse, a crowned harp, between M. R. crowned; VERITAS. TEMPORIS. FILIA. MDLIII.

Another of the like base metal, after her marriage, PHILIP. Z. MARIA. D. G. REX. ET. REGINA. The crown above their heads, with the date 1557, or 1558. Reverse, a crowned harp, between P. and M. crowned; POSVIMVS. DEVM. ADIVTOR. NOSTR.

In her last year, the Rose Pennies<sup>a</sup> of *Henry* the Eighth, and *Edward* the Sixth, mixed with brass, were by *English* proclamation restrained to *Ireland*.

<sup>a</sup> Irish Hist. lib., p. 166.

## QUEEN ELIZABETH,

A. D. 1558.

{ Q. Eliz. DURING the short reigns of King *Edward* and Queen *Mary*, some progress had been made towards restoring good Money, but it was reserved for this excellent Princess to compleat; and, next to the reformation in religion, nothing could be more glorious or more beneficial to the kingdom, than the reformation of the Money. This, amongst other felicities of her reign, was mentioned by the Parliament,<sup>a</sup> in their congratulations to her Majesty upon the happiness of the times, and the same is justly inserted amongst the encomia upon her tomb at *Westminster*.

The first indenture for coinage in this reign, mentioned by Mr. *Lownd*<sup>b</sup>, is in the second year; but there is a commission<sup>c</sup>, dated the thirty-first of *December* in her first year, (which was presently after her

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Eliz. Stat. 5 Eliz. c. 11.<sup>b</sup> p. 49.<sup>c</sup> 1 Eliz. p. 4. Memb. 14.



accesſion to the crown) to Sir *Edmund Peckham*, high treaſurer of the mint, *Thomas Stanley*, comptroller, and others, who were empowered to make Sovereigns at thirty Shillings, twenty-four to the pound; Angels at ten Shillings, ſeventy-two to the pound; and Angelets, of the fineneſs of twenty-three carrats, ten grains, and a half fine gold, and one grain and a half allay, (as the record has it,) inſtead of three grains and a half fine, and half a grain allay, which bears the ſame proportion, and ſhew evidently the miſtake; and of crown gold, twenty-two carrats fine, Sovereigns, at twenty Shillings, thirty-three to the pound, Half Sovereigns, Crowns, and Half Crowns; remedy as well for fine, as crown gold two grains, coinage four Shillings, and of ſilver eleven ounces fine, and one ounce allay, Shillings, ſixty to the pound, Half Shillings, Groats, Half Groats, and Pence. Remedy, two pennyweights, coinage to the Queen Eighteenpence per pound weight.

In her ſecond year is an indenture <sup>a</sup> with Sir *Thomas Stanley*, and others, for coining pieces of the ſame denomination of gold,

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 49.

with

Q. Eliz. with the addition of Rials at fifteen Shillings, all of the old standard; and of crown gold the same as before. Silver of the old sterling, viz. eleven ounces two pennyweights fine, and eighteen pennyweights allay, into Half Shillings, Groats, Quarter Shillings, Half Groats, Three-halfpenny Pieces, Pence, and Farthings.

In these two first years of her reign, there was a great deal of Money coined, whereby the want of good Money being in some measure supplied, she set about reforming the bad. And, first, having prohibited any person to melt or carry away any Coin out of the kingdom, the bad Money was reduced to the true value, by a proclamation dated the twenty-eighth of *September*, 1560. By this proclamation<sup>a</sup> the *Testoön*, which King *Edward* the Sixth had brought down to Sixpence, was now reduced to Fourpence Halfpenny, being of the best sort; the two other sorts of *Testoöns*, (being distinguished by several stamps) were reduced, the second sort to Twopence Farthing, and the third to nothing; the old Groat to Twopence, the Twopence to a Penny; or, as another

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Annals, 1560.

writer<sup>a</sup> has it, the Coin of Twopence to Q. Eliz.  
 Three Halfpence, and the Brazen Penny to  
 an Halfpenny Farthing. The same writer  
 informs us<sup>b</sup>, the first marked the base  
 Money, some with a greyhound, others  
 with portcullis's, and others with a lion,  
 harp, rose, or *fleur de lis*, and after a time  
 recalled them to the mint. The greyhound  
 and portcullis were probably the stamps  
 which distinguished the two basest *Testoons*,  
 viz. the worst with the greyhound,  
 and that of Twopence Halfpenny value  
 with the portcullis; for there are some in  
 collections with this latter stamp: but as  
 to the other stamps of the lion, rose, *fleur*  
*de lis*, and harp, they were no other than  
 the several mint-marks of the base *Testoons*,  
 as appears by the declaration dated the day  
 after the proclamation, and intitled, A  
 declaration or summary of certain reasons  
 which moved the Queen to reduce the  
 base Money, appointed to be declared by  
 order of her proclamation in the city of  
*London*; the substance whereof it will not  
 be improper to insert<sup>c</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Eliz. 1688. in 1560, p. 48, 49. <sup>b</sup> Camden's  
 Remains. <sup>c</sup> From a copy without the draughts, printed in  
 1696.

Q. Eliz.

First, The honour and reputation of the singular wealth that this realm was wont to have above all others, was partly in that it had no coined Monies but gold and silver, whereas the rest of *Christendome* have had, and still have, base Monies; and to recover this, as her Majesty meant, for her part, to be at great charges, so every good *English* subject ought to be content, though it was some small loss at the first; also, by continuing the base Monies, counterfeits, both at home and abroad, had made no small quantities, and uttered the same, first at Twelvepence the *Testoon*, afterwards for Eightpence, though not worth above Twopence; and for small sums of Money counterfeited, had carried out six times the value in commodities of the realm; also changing the said base Monies for the gold and fine silver Monies of the realm, and transported the same: so that although there had been coined, both in the latter end of King *Edward*, and the time of Queen *Mary*, and also since the Queen's Majesty's reign, great quantities of gold and silver, yet no part thereof was seen commonly current, some being carried  
out,



out, and some perchance hoarded by the wiser sort, as it were to be wished that the whole were. Q. Eliz.

Also, the prices of all things produced from the earth, though there had been a plentiful increase, immeasurably and daily rose, and no remedy could be devised to amend the same, but to reduce the said base Monies to their just value; for every man knew, that a *Testoon* was not worth Sixpence, and therefore no man would give that which was, and ever had been worth Sixpence for a *Testoon*, but rather would require two *Testoons*; and so a thing being worth Sixpence, was bought and sold either for two *Testoons*, or one and a half, which was in reckoning twelve or nine Pence. Whereas every *Testoon* being brought to the just value, it must needs follow, that one shall buy that for Fourpence Halfpenny, which was wont to cost Sixpence, so that what he may lose by the bad Money, he will gain by the next good Money he shall get.

By this means the exchange shall rise in estimation as formerly, and the foreign commodities be thereby bought for easier prices; so that every man ought to thank  
God,

Q. Eliz. God, that he may live to see the honour of his country thus partly recovered, and be secured from the privy thief, which is the counterfeiter.

And her Majesty is fully resolved to reform the Monies according to her proclamation, as experience shall try, within a month or six weeks, within which time necessary things for the mint must be provided; and that the Monies shall be of so just value, as the *Testoon* set at Twopence Farthing, her Majesty will allow for every pound of them twenty Shillings and Threepence in reward, which is rather more than they are worth being melted; so that her Majesty, who, since she came to the crown, never gained any thing by any coinage, nor yet ever coined any manner of base Monies for this realm, will not now determine to lessen the honour and fame, that she shall, with small loss or gain, recover, by this noble act to benefit her realm and people.

And as to the burthen of the greatest loss upon the *Testoon* of Twopence Farthing, those, by good accounts, appeared not to be above a sixth part, compared to the other base Monies of the same sort  
of

of *Testoons*, coined at the mints of this realm; and at the coinage of the same base *Testoons*, now valued at Twopence Farthing, which was done in the time of the wars heretofore, there were set thereto certain marks, as a lion, a rose, a *fleur de lis*, a harp, called the privy marks of such as were then masters of the mint, which also be specified in the proclamation, for the better understanding whereof, the stamps of every kind of the same base *Testoons* are set at the end of the declaration: and to ease her subjects as much as possible, the officers of the mint are to allow for counterfeit *Testoons*, as much as they contain in good silver, which in no realm any Prince either hath, or ought to do.

Given under the Queen's Majesty's signet,  
at her honour of *Hampton-Court*, the  
29th of *September*, in the second year  
of her Majesty's reign, MDLX.

There was a separate mint in the *Tower*, on purpose to convert the base Money into sterling, which lasted about a year; and a computation was given<sup>a</sup> in of the base

<sup>a</sup> Stow's Survey of Lond. 1720, Strype's edit. tom. 1. lib. 1, cap. 18, p. 98.

Q. Eliz. Monies received into the mint, from  
*Michaelmas* 1500, to *Michaelmas* 1561,  
 with the charges of the workmanship, as  
 follows :

Total of the mafs of bafe }  
 Monies was pound weight } 631950

Which was current Money } £. s. d.  
 according to the rates of } 638113 16 6  
 their feveral ftandards - }

Total of the mafs of fine }  
 Monies pound weight - } 244416

Which is in Monies cur- } £. s. d.  
 rent at fixty Shillings the } 783248 0 0  
 pound weight - - - - }

#### The charges of coinage.

To the two treafurers of the }  
 mint, *Thomas Stanley* and }  
*Thomas Fleetwood*, for } 7128 16 0  
 coinage at Sevenpence }  
 the pound weight - - - }

Necessaries, as coals, coin- }  
 ing-irons, &c. - - - - } 3848 2 8

Fees of officers, with their }  
 diet for one year - - - } 2006 5 7

Sum total of the charges }  
 aforefaid, amounting to } 12983 4 3

At



At this time odd pieces were coined, Q. Eliz.  
 namely, Fourpence Halfpenny Pieces,  
 Twopence Farthing Pieces, and Penny  
 Halfpenny Pieces.

About the same time the *French Crown*<sup>a</sup>, which was current for six Shillings and Fourpence, was brought down to six Shillings, by proclamation; and by another the fifteenth of *November* 1561, all foreign Coins<sup>b</sup> were forbidden to be current in the realm, and the same were called into the mint, except two sorts of gold Crowns, the one *French*, the other *Flemish*; whereupon, for the space of half a year, was weekly brought into the *Tower of London* to be coined, eight, ten, twelve, sixteen, twenty, twenty-two thousand pounds of silver plates, and as much, or more in Pistolets, and other gold of *Spanish* Coins, and one week in Pistolets, and other *Spanish* gold twenty-six thousand pounds.

By this last proclamation diverse small pieces of Money were appointed to be current, as the Sixpence, Fourpence, Threepence, Twopence, and Penny; Three-halfpence, and Three Farthings; but none of the pieces of Fourpence Halfpenny;

<sup>a</sup> Stow, m. 1560.

<sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 647.

Q. Eliz. and Twopence Farthing before mentioned. And as there does not appear to have been any such pieces, it is probably a mistake of the editor, or else the base *Testoons* were meant thereby, which, by proclamation, had before been made current at those values.

After this we have the following indentures<sup>a</sup> and commissions, all of the same standard, viz. gold of the old standard thirty-six pounds in tale, and crown gold thirty-three pounds in tale; the silver of the old sterling three pounds by tale.

The nineteenth of *Elizabeth*, by indenture with *John Louison*, master and worker, viz. Angels at ten Shillings, Half Angels and Quarter Angels of gold; and of silver, Half Shillings, Threepences, Three-half-penny pieces, or Three-farthing pieces.

The twenty-fifth of *Elizabeth*, by indenture with *Richard Martin*, for gold as the former, and the pound of silver into sixty Shillings, or three Pounds by tale, in any of the denominations in the last.

The twenty-sixth of *Elizabeth*, a commission to him to coin Nobles, forty-eight to the pound, at fifteen Shillings a piece,

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 50, 51.

or twenty-four Double Nobles at thirty Q. Eliz. Shillings.

The thirty-fifth of *Elizabeth*, the same for crown gold, to coin *Sovereigns* at twenty Shillings, thirty-three to the pound, or *Half Sovereigns* or Crowns, a hundred and thirty-two to the pound, or Half Crowns.

But in her forty-third year the Money was made something lighter; for by a commission to the said *Richard Martin*, the pound of gold of the old standard, was to make seventy-three Angels, at ten Shillings a-piece, or Half Angels, or Quarter Angels, making thirty-six Pounds ten Shillings in tale, and the pound weight of twenty-two carrats fine, and two carrats allay, into thirty-three Sovereigns and a Half, at twenty Shillings each, or sixty-seven Half Sovereigns, or a hundred and thirty-four Crowns, or two hundred and sixty-eight Half Crowns, making thirty-three Pounds ten Shillings in tale; and the pound of old standard silver into three Pounds two Shillings by tale, namely, into Crowns, Half Crowns, Shillings, Sixpences, Twopences, Pence, and Halfpence.

Q. Eliz.


The same year Queen *Elizabeth* is likewise said <sup>a</sup> to have contracted for the coining of pieces of an Angel and a Half, and three Angels; but these, by their value, were no other than *Sovereigns* and *Double Sovereigns*.

In the mean time, some good laws <sup>b</sup> were made to prevent the currency of bad Money; it was made treason to clip, wash, round, or file any Coin current in the realm by proclamation; and misprison of treason, falsely to forge or counterfeit any gold or silver Coin, though not the proper Coin of this realm; or permitted to be current; but other arts and inventions being devised to evade the law, it was further enacted <sup>c</sup> in her eighteenth year, That by any art to impair, diminish, falsify, scale, or lighten the proper Monies of this realm, or permitted to be current by proclamation, should be treason. But all was not sufficient to prevent this practice; for two years after, one *John de Loy* <sup>d</sup>, a *Frenchman*, and five *English* gentlemen, were arraigned, and executed, for coining of counterfeit

<sup>a</sup> Morison's *Iten.* in *Eng. Hist.* lib.<sup>b</sup> 2d St. 5 Eliz.<sup>c</sup> 11. 1 St. 14 Eliz. c. 3.<sup>e</sup> St. 18 Eliz. c. 1.<sup>d</sup> Stow's*Annals*, anno 1578, p. 684. *Ib.* 1595, p. 769.

Money,



Money, besides others in her thirty-seventh year : and in her forty-second year, a proclamation <sup>a</sup> was made for putting the laws in force against the transportation of Coin. Q. Eliz. 

Her first and best *Sovereign*, of thirty Shillings value, has her figure sitting in her regalia upon her throne, and the portcullis at her feet, like her sister's ; ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. ET. HIB. REGINA. and the same reverse as *Queen Mary's*, but the B. added in MIRAB. The mint-marks a tun, an escallop, &c.

The Rial or Noble, Half the value of <sup>2 S. P. IV. N<sup>o</sup> 34.</sup> the best *Sovereign*, has her figure with a ruff, (which she first used upon the Money,) and crowned, standing in a ship, something more modern than her sister's, holding in her hands the sceptre and orb. Upon the side of the ship is a rose with lions, and *fleurs de lis*, and a flag at the head of the ship, inscribed with an old *English* E. the epigraphe in like characters, ELIZ. AB. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. REGINA. Reverse, like *Queen Mary's* Rial, but with the old legend, IHS. AVT. TRANSIENS. PER.

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Eliz. Anno 1600.

Q. Eliz. MEDIV. ILLORUM. IBAT. the letter A.  
the mint-mark.

The Angel, ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. III. REGINA. in *Roman* capitals. Reverse, the arms in the old fashioned ship, with E. and a rose on the sides of the mast; A. DNO. FACTVM. EST. ISTVD. ET. EST. MIRABI. A bell the mint-mark. Others of 1578, a cross, or 1592, with a tun. Those of her thirty-fifth year with an anchor or a cypher, and of her forty-third year with the figures 1, or 2.

The Angelet, or Half Angel, is like the Angel of the same year and Mintage. One of these with MIRA. for *Mirabile*, has a dagger the mint-mark.

1 S. PL.V.  
N<sup>o</sup> 45. The Money of crown gold, is first, her *Sovereign* of twenty Shillings, having her bust with a ruff, and hair dishevelled, crowned with a high double-arched crown, ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. REGINA. Reverse, the arms crowned, between E. R. legend, SCVTVM. FIDEI. PROTEGET. EAM. a woolpack the mint-mark.

Another Sovereign, with a tun the mint-mark, of which mintage there is the Half  
So-

Sovereign, the Quarter, and Half Quarter. Q. Eliz.  
 On the last of these the name and titles  
 are abbreviated, ELIZAB. D. G. ANG. FR.  
 ET. HIB. REGI.

There are other Sovereigns differing in the form of the crown, the arches being much more obtuse, or flatter than the former. These have a cross crosslet the mint-mark.

Also a very neat sort like the former, but without the two circles round the legend, ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. ET. HIB. REGINA. Reverse, the arms, motto, and letters as before, having a mullet of six points for the mint-mark. These were coined by the mill, having graining upon the flat edge; and there are some few Half and Quarter Sovereigns of this sort, with grain- ing both upon the flat and thick edge of the rim, being undoubtedly the first *English* Money coined with the mill, or that had graining upon the rim. A Quarter Sovereign of this sort has a *fleur de lis* the mint-mark, which is supposed to be the mark of the year 1567, or 1568.

This invention of the mill, *Le Blanc*<sup>2</sup> calls *Ballancier*, or *Fly*, from the manner

<sup>2</sup> p. 286.

Q Eliz. of working it, and says it was first set up at *Paris* in 1553, but it seems not to have been perfected till long afterwards; for the first Money coined by the mill in *France*, was <sup>a</sup> *Testoons*, and *Demy-Testoons*, in the year 1561. The same year we have Sixpences coined by the mill in *England*, the invention being brought hither <sup>b</sup> by a *Frenchman*, who was encouraged by the Queen and Council, and coined milled Money in the mint in the *Tower*, when the pieces before mentioned were made with graining upon the thick edge of the rim, as patterns of milled Money. But this *Frenchman* being detected of counterfeiting and making milled Money out of the mint, he was hanged and quartered. Perhaps the secret died with him; but I rather think it did not answer the cost, and therefore was laid aside here, as it had been in *France*, *Henry* the Third, by an edict <sup>c</sup> in *September* 1585, forbidding the use of the mill, except for Medals and Counters.

A very fair *Sovereign* <sup>d</sup> of this milled sort, has her head crowned something smaller than usual, as upon her Shilling of the

<sup>a</sup> Ib. p. 327. <sup>b</sup> The Answer of the Moniers in the mint to Peter Bondeau, fo. 1653, p. 20, p. 31. <sup>c</sup> Boissard, p. 158.

<sup>d</sup> Antiq. plate IV.



same mintage; ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. Q. Eliz.  
 FRAN. ET. HIB. REGINA. Reverse, IHS.  
 AVTEM. TRAN. PER. MEDIV. ILLOR.  
 IBAT. and the arms crowned, between  
 E. R. A rose the mint-mark.

As to the Crowns and Half Crowns of gold, they are probably no other than the Quarter and Half Quarter Sovereigns.

The lighter Coins of her forty-third year, are known from the other by the figures 1, or 2, for the mint-marks.

The Shilling has the Queen's bust looking to the left, crowned, a rose behind the head, ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGINA. Reverse, POSVI. DEV. ADIVTOREM. MEVM. An escoccheon of the arms, divided by the old cross, with the date above, 1575, and a *fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

Another with the same mint-mark, but without the rose or date, REG. for REGINA. and MEV. for MEVM.

A third ELIZAB. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. REGI. a key the mint-mark, which, Mr. *Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> says, shews it was coined in the Archbishop of *York*'s mint; but it is not probable there was any Money coined

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 300.

Q. Eliz. in the Bishop's mints after *Henry* the Eighth, much less Shillings, (when *Wolfey* had been impeached for coining Groats;) but it might perhaps be coined in the King's mint there.

ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. REGINA. with a martlet the mint-mark, commonly called a *Drake*, and the Shilling from thence the *Drake Shilling*, in memory (as the vulgar have it) of Sir *Francis Drake's* voyage round the world; but is indeed no other than the mint-mark of Sir *Richard Martin*, who was made warden of the mint<sup>a</sup> the fourteenth of *Elizabeth*, and in her twenty-third year master-worker, in which post he continued till the fifteenth of *James* the First; and this mark of the martlet he used upon the Money, not only as allusive to his name, but as being a part of his arms, which was granted to him when he was warden of the mint.

Another, like the former, has a cross crosslet the mint-mark, and FRA. for *Frank*.

<sup>1</sup> S. P. VI. N<sup>o</sup> 48. The milled Shilling, with graining upon the flat edge, is without circles about the

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 15, p. 785. tom. 16, p. 414. tom. 17, p. 19.

legend;

legend; ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. Q. Eliz.  
 ET. HIB. REGINA. a mullet of six points  
 the mint-mark. It is a very neat Coin.

There are Sixpences almost of every year of her reign, from 1561, both of the hammered and milled sort, and several different stamps of the same year: all of them have a rose behind the Queen's head, crowned, and the same epigraphe and reverse as the Shillings, with the date above the arms, which, in some measure, ascertains the mint-marks to the respective years, and by that means determines the years by the mint-marks, to those other Coins which want the dates. The milled Sixpences have generally a mullet of six points, or a *fleur de lis* the mint-mark. There is one Sixpence of 1562, weighing two pennyweights three grains, which is three grains above the full weight, though in general they fall short by about seven grains; for *Lovison*<sup>a</sup>, who was master-worker from the fourteenth, till the twenty-second of *Elizabeth*, coined the Money Sixpence Farthing under the standard, and short of weight for divers years, till he

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 15, p. 705. Stow's Survey of Lond. by Strype, b. 1, ch. 18, p. 100.

Q. Eliz. was detected by *Martin* the warden ; but he pleaded necessity for it, to make amends for a bad bargain. And upon a commission of enquiry, though it appeared, that besides Eighteenpence in the pound weight, which the subject paid to the coinage (whereof the Queen had Tenpence, and the master Eightpence) there was taken from the Money Sixpence Farthing more. The commissioners were satisfied the work could not be performed without it, and, even then, was too little to bear all the charges ; and therefore, in their report to the Queen, they proposed to allow him Fifteenpence in the pound weight, and discharge him of what was past ; and if he did not accept of that, to appoint another in his place, and allow him a pension.

<sup>2</sup>S.P.IV.  
N<sup>o</sup> 35. Besides the Sixpences before mentioned, there is a rose one in *Speed*, having the Queen's bust crowned, looking to the right, (contrariwise from the former) the bust being larger than usual, and extending to the rim ; ELIZABETH. D. G. AN. F. & H. I. REGINA. Reverse, the arms in a large shield crowned, and divided by a very broad cross ; the usual motto *Posui*, &c. and the date



date in the circumscription above the arms, 1575. Q. Eliz.

*Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> mentions a Sixpence counter-marked, with the *Belgick* lion, very fair upon the Queen's breast, when she took those provinces under her protection.

There is another stamped with the arms of *Zealand*, to make it current there.

I have likewise seen a light Sixpence of 1672, stamped on the head-side with a figure like an H, probably to denote the lightness; but when, and upon what occasion, does not occur.

The Groats, both of the hammered and milled Money, are like the Sixpences of the same mintage, but want the rose behind the head, and the date above the arms. 1 S. P. VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 49.

The Threepences, like the Sixpences, have both the rose and date.

The Twopences like the Groats, but the hammered Twopence has two points or dots behind the head. EDG. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, the arms, and CIVITAS. LONDON. a tun the mint-mark, and weigh from fourteen grains and a half to sixteen. One of these, with a crescent the mint-mark, weighs eighteen grains, which, by

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 306.

Q. Eliz. the weight, answers to the pieces of Twopence Farthing, if there were any such. The milled Twopence is like the Threepence, but wants the rose, (as the Groat) and has a mullet of six points the mint-mark, and weighing sixteen grains.

The Threepenny piece has a rose; without the Queen's head, E. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, the arms, CIVITAS. EBORACI. Weight twelve grains.

The Penny is like the Twopence, but without the dots, weighing eight grains.

A piece like the Penny weighs six grains, perhaps the Threepenny piece.

Another piece weighing half a grain more, has a rose behind the Queen's head, and on the reverse, above the arms, 1. 7.

Mr. *Thoresby* <sup>a</sup> mentions silver Halfpennies, having the rose on both sides, and probably the Farthings had the same stamp.

1 S. P. VI. N<sup>o</sup> 47. The first indenture that mentions Crowns and Half Crowns of silver, is in her forty-third year. These have her Majesty's bust in her robes crowned, the sceptre in her right hand, and orb in her left, a large

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 313.

ruff and collar of roses about her neck, and the badge of the rose with pearls pendant thereto, which badge was then, and long afterwards, in like manner worn at the collars of the officers at arms; ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. ET. HIBER. REGINA. Reverse, the arms, cross, and legend as the Shilling; a figure of 1. the mint-mark.

The portcullis, or exportable Money, is peculiar to this reign, and very scarce; it was coined by commission<sup>a</sup>, the eleventh of *January*, in her forty-third year, for the use of the *East-India Company*, and therefore called *Indian Money*. The Queen<sup>b</sup> would not admit the company, at her first granting them to be a corporation, to transport the King of *Spain's* silver Coin into the *East-Indies*, though the merchants pressed it very often, telling her Majesty, that her silver Coin and stamp was not known in the *East-Indies*. To which she replied, that for the reasons the merchants alledged, it was her resolution not to grant the King of *Spain's*, or any foreign Prince's Coin, to be sent into *India*, but

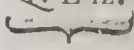
<sup>a</sup> Mint-Books. <sup>b</sup> Violet's Appeal to Cæsar, 4to. 1660, p. 25, 26.

Q. Eliz. such pieces as were coined with her effigies on one side, and the portcullis on the other; that the *Indians* might know her, wherever her merchants traded, to be as great a Prince as the King of *Spain*; and that no more should be sent than she and her council should approve. As this was to supply the place of *Spanish* Money, which was best known in the *Indies*, it was made of the just weight and fineness of the *Spanish* Dollar, or piece of eight Rials, and the parts of the Dollar, viz. <sup>a</sup> in pieces of eight Testers, four Testers, two Testers, and single Testers; the Tester being equivalent to the *Spanish* Rial of plate. The piece of eight Testers, commonly called the *Portcullis Crown*, weighed seventeen Pennyweights eleven grains, equal to a *Spanish* Dollar or piece of eight, and to four Shillings and Sixpence *English*, and therefore may not improperly be called

<sup>25. Pl. V. N<sup>o</sup> 46.</sup> the *English* Dollar. The lesser pieces were in proportion, and all bore the same stamp, having on one side (instead of her Majesty's head, which seems at first to have been intended) an escoccheon of her arms crowned, between E. R. crown'd; ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. REGINA. Reverse,

<sup>a</sup> Mint Books.



her badge of the portcullis crowned, POSVI. Q. Eliz:  
 DEVM. ADIVTOREM. MEVM. An annulet   
 the mint-mark.

This was observed all *Queen Elizabeth's* reign, but in the next was bought off; from which time, to 1660, above six millions were exported, besides private adventures; and afterwards the same practice was continued in a much greater degree; for an author<sup>a</sup> computes the exportation to our time, at no less than a hundred and fifty millions; which, no doubt, was one reason of the scarcity of good Money, that brought such immense charge upon the nation for re-coinage in King *William's* time: whereas, had *Queen Elizabeth's* rule been observed, it would, in some measure, have prevented that inconvenience, and besides the saving to the public, have done honour to the nation, and brought in a considerable revenue to the crown by the coinage.

Before the union of the two kingdoms in King *James the First*, there was not any brass or copper Money coined for the use of *England*, though our neighbours, the

<sup>a</sup> State of the Nation in respect of her Credit, Money, &c. 8vo. Lond. 1726.

*Q. Eliz. French*<sup>a</sup>, had it in 1575, as most of the neighbouring kingdoms and states had sometime before. Queen *Elizabeth*<sup>b</sup>, it seems, had it under consideration before her death, and the question was stated to *Martin*, warden of the mint, about coining Farthings, whether to make them of silver, or silver debased, or copper; and his report thereupon was, That if they were of silver of the standard of the other Coins, the pieces would be only two grains, neither conveniently coined, nor handled for payment. If they were increased by a base standard to six grains, which was the smallest they conveniently could be, then there would be eighty in every ounce, and in every pound nine hundred and sixty, and would be current for twenty Shillings: the workmanship would cost two Shillings and Eightpence the pound weight: the small quantity of silver would make no shew, and would be clearly lost, and as easily counterfeited, as if they were only copper; but, if made of copper, they might be faithfully made of one pennyweight the piece, two hundred and forty in a pound, and be current for five Shillings: These

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 271. <sup>b</sup> Strype's Stow, b. 1, ch. 18, p. 102.

would be apt for use, and of infinite continuance, and in them there was no precedent of embasing. And from this report, the Queen certainly intended to coin copper Money for *England*, as she did for *Ireland*. Mr. *Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> describes a piece in his collection, which undoubtedly was a design for a copper Halfpenny, having her Majesty's cypher under a crown, circumscribed THE. PLEDGE. OF. Reverse, a rose and crown, A. HALFPENNY. But though it does not appear her Majesty coined any copper Halfpence, yet by her authority<sup>b</sup>, Halfpence of copper were made at *Bristol*, for the use of that opulent city, having on one side a ship, and on the other C. B. signifying *Civitas Bristol*. And these went current for small things at *Bristol*, and ten miles round; and for want of some such Money the latter end of her reign, every chandler, tapster, victualler, and others, made tokens of lead and brass for Halfpence.

The following particular state of the coinage, from the twenty-second of *August*, in the twenty-third of *Queen Elizabeth*, to the last of *August* in her fortieth year,

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 325. <sup>b</sup> *Consuetudo, et lex Mercatoria*, by Gerard Malines, fo. p. 185. 1656. fol. Lond.

Q. Eliz. being seventeen years, is inserted from an old mint-book of the time, which, from several circumstances, appears to have belonged to Sir *Richard Martin* the mint-master.

By commission, which endured but only three months, dated the twenty-second of *August*, the twenty-third year of the Queen.

	lbwt.	oz.	dwt.	gr.	£.	s.	d.
Angel Gold - -	984	0	1	12			
Silver Money -	26235	2	0	0			

The Gold,	{	For coinage due to the Queen at three Shillings the pound weight - -	148	7	0
		For coinage due to the master, at four Shillings and Ninepence the pound weight - - - - -	234	17	9

The Silver,	{	For coinage due to the Queen, at Tenpence Farthing the pound weight	1120	8	6
		For coinage due to the master, at fourteen Pence the pound weight - -	1530	7	8

By



By indenture which still endureth, dated *Q. Eliz.*  
 the thirtieth of *January*, the twenty-  
 fifth year of the Queen's reign.

	<i>lbwt.</i>	<i>oz.</i>	<i>dwt.</i>	<i>gr.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Angel Gold -	7106	0	4	6			
Silv. Money	632135	11	5	0			

The Gold,	{ For coinage due to the Queen at fifteen Pence the pound weight - }				444	2	6
	{ For coinage due to the master at four Shil- lings and Ninepence the pound weight - }				1687	13	6

The Silver,	{ For coinage due to the Queen at Eightpence the pound weight - }				21071	4	0
	{ For coinage due to the master, at fourteen Pence the pound weight - - - - - }				36874	12	10

By another indenture for Crown Gold,  
 which still endureth, dated the tenth of  
*June*, in the thirty-fifth year of the  
 Queen.

	<i>lbwt.</i>	<i>oz.</i>	<i>dwt.</i>	<i>gr.</i>
Crown Gold	1918	6	11	20

S 3

For

<u>Q. Eliz.</u> For coinage due to the	}	£.	s.	d.
Queen, at fifteen Pence		119	18	1
the pound weight - -				

For coinage due to the mas-	}			
ter, at five Shillings and				
Ninepence the pound		55	11	4
weight - - - - -				

Charges to be born by the Queen for the whole time.

For the officers fees and	}			
diet, at four hundred and				
one Pound, sixteen Shil-		68	3	1
lings and Tenpence per			6	2
annum - - - - -				

For one Halfpenny by tale,	}			
granted to the moniers				
upon the coinage of every				
pound weight of silver,		13	16	18
from the thirtieth of				11
January, the twenty-fifth				
of Elizabeth - - -				

For repairing of buildings,	}	10	20	0
at sixty pounds per annum			0	0

Charges

Charges to be born by the master in the Q. Eliz.  
 coinage of the Monies for the whole  
 time.

To the moniers for coinage of every pound weight of silver, at Sevenpence Far- thing the pound weight	}	£.	s.	d.
		20574	1	10
For waste at melting the silver, at Threepence the pound weight - - -	}	8229	12	9
For provision of coals, iron, tools, wages, diet, and all other expences about making the Monies, at four hundred Pounds per annum - - - - -	}	6800	0	0
For waste of gold and melt- ing at Ninepence the pound weight - - -	}	375	11	2
For coinage to the moniers, ditto - - - - -	}	375	11	2
Sum total of the Queen's profits - - - - -	}	22904	0	1
Sum total of the Queen's charges, is - - - - -	}	9168	5	1
Refts to the Queen - -		13735	15	0
		S 4		Sum

Q. Eliz.	Sum total of the master's	}	£.	s.	d.
	profits, is - - - -		40879	3	4
	Sum total of the master's	}			
	charges, is - - - -		36354	16	11
	Refts clear to the master		4524	6	2
	More the master hath gain- ed by <i>Spanish</i> Money, weighing four hundred and thirty-eight thousand pounds weight, at Seven- pence the pound weight	}	5475	0	0
	The master's whole gains		9999	6	2
	The whole weight of fine and Crown gold molten in the time aforesaid, is - -	}	lbwt.	oz.	dwt. gr.
			10044	3	19 9
	The whole weight of silver molten - -	}	662324	4	1 3
	The whole weight of fine and Crown gold coined in the time aforesaid, is - -	}	10013	6	17 14
	The whole weight of silver bullion coined	}	658371	1	5 0
	So remains in the mas- ter's hands yet un- coined of gold - -	}	30	9	1 19
	Ditto of silver not yet coined - - -	}	3953	0	16 3
			All		



All the silver sterling Money<sup>a</sup> coined Q Eliz.  
 in this reign, excluding some base *Irish*  
 Monies that were then made, did amount  
 to four million, six hundred and thirty-  
 two thousand, nine hundred and thirty-  
 two Pounds, three Shillings, and Twopence  
 three Farthings. The gold<sup>b</sup>, one million,  
 five hundred thousand Pounds.

The *Irish*<sup>c</sup>, in the beginning of this  
 reign, are said to have a mint of their own,  
 but it does not appear they had any Money  
 coined there; on the contrary, there is a  
 commission<sup>d</sup>, to Sir *Edmund Peckham*,  
 treasurer, and *Thomas Stanley*, comptroller  
 of the mint in the *Tower*, and others, to  
 convert base Money, then current in  
*England*, into Harp Shillings and Groats,  
 and to take four thousand Pounds base  
 Monies, to make eight thousand in Harp  
 Shillings and Harp Groats, three ounces  
 fine, and nine ounces allay; forty such  
 Shillings to the pound *Troy*, having the  
 Queen's effigies on the one side, with her  
 usual stile, and the harp crowned on the  
 other.

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 102.      <sup>b</sup> State of the Nation in respect to  
 her Credit, Debts, and Money, 8vo. Lond. 1726, p. 18.

<sup>c</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 166.      <sup>d</sup> 4to. Pars, Pat. primo Eliza.

Q. Eliz.

The base Money was no sooner prohibited in *England*, but it is said to have been carried over to *Ireland* in great quantities; that the *Bungalls*, as they called them, went for Sixpence, and the broad pieces for Twelvepence; but afterwards the former only for Twopence, and the latter for a Groat; and when they were refused elsewhere, they passed in *Connaught*, the former for a Penny, and the latter for Twopence. But this was not of long continuance, for about the same time<sup>a</sup> that the Queen restored good Money in *England*, she did the like in *Ireland*, coining Shillings of the value of Ninepence *English*, and of equal fineness, or at least as good as her sister's, which were eleven ounces fine.

The Shillings are fair pieces, having her head crowned like the *English*; ELIZABETH. D. G. A. F. ET. HIBERNIE. REG.

Reverse, in a shield crowned, three harps with the date on each side, 15-61, and the *English* motto, POSVI, &c. a harp the mint-mark. Some of these weigh three pennyweights two grains, but others no more than two pennyweights twelve

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Eliz. anno 1560.

grains. The Sixpence is like the Shilling, and the Threepence has the same stamp, but with the addition of a rose behind the head. Q. Eliz.

In her fortieth year was an indenture<sup>a</sup> with Sir *Richard Martin*, and *Richard Martin* his son, master workers of the Queen's mint in the *Tower*, for coining five sorts of Monies for *Ireland*, viz. Shillings, to be current for Twelvepence *Irish*, Half Shillings, Quarter Shillings, Pennies, and Halfpennies; and by force of this indenture certain quantities of the said several kinds of Monies were coined and issued for the payment of her Majesty's army in that kingdom. And in her forty-third year<sup>b</sup> was another indenture, by which were coined *Irish* Shillings, Sixpences, and Threepences, two ounces eighteen pennyweights fine; the privy marks a cypher, a mullet, or a martlet; and likewise *Irish* Pence and Halfpence of copper, one hundred and ninety and a half to the pound.

About the same time was put forth a proclamation<sup>c</sup>, comformable to a law enacted in the reign of King *Henry* the

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, vol. 16, p. 414. Pat. 43 Eliz. <sup>b</sup> Mint Books.

<sup>c</sup> Camden's Eliz. 1601.

Q. Eliz. Seventh, that no man should carry over any *English* Money into *Ireland*.

This debasement of the *Irish* Money, *Buckburst*<sup>a</sup>, Lord Treasurer, extorted from the Queen, out of a necessity, as he alledged, the *Irish* war drawing yearly out of *England* above one hundred and sixty thousand Pounds sterling; but the Queen herself was averse to it, saying, it would much reflect upon her credit, and disoblige the army. Whether it turned to the advantage of the Queen, or not, says *Camden*, I do not know; but to the treasurer's and paymaster's, no doubt it did, whose covetous humour may seem to have first contrived it.

This base Money was afterwards made current by proclamation, wherein it is described<sup>b</sup> to be stamped on one side with her highness's arms, crowned, and inscription of her usual style, and on the other with the harp crowned, &c. As also certain pieces of small Money, of Pence, Halfpence, and Farthings, for the use of the poorer sort, stamped on each side as the other; and the proclamation takes notice, that the silver was three ounces fine,

<sup>a</sup> Camden's Eliz. 1601.

<sup>b</sup> Irish Hist. Library, ch. of Money.

though,



though, as I have observed above, it was Q. Eliz.  
 but two ounces eighteen pennyweights,  
 and the goldsmiths valued a Shilling at no  
 more than Twopence sterling.

The Shillings of this coinage have on  
 one side the arms, ELIZABETH. D. G.  
 ANG. FR. ET. HIBER. REG. Reverse,  
 the harp crowned, POSVI. DEVM. ADIV-  
 TOREM. MEVM.

As this Money was coined in *England*  
 for the use of *Ireland*, it was returned thi-  
 ther by way of exchange, for which pur-  
 pose a new office was erected<sup>a</sup>, called *The*  
*Office of Exchanger between England and*  
*Ireland*, and every person for twenty Shil-  
 lings *Irish* delivered in *Ireland*, was to re-  
 ceive nineteen Shillings in *England*, and  
 for twenty Shillings paid in *England*, to  
 receive twenty-one Shillings in *Ireland*;  
 and this new standard being made current<sup>b</sup>,  
 all other Coins were ordered to be brought  
 into the treasury, to the great loss of the  
 soldiers, and, at the same time taking away  
 the allowance of one Shilling in the Pound  
 for exchange, bred a general grievance.  
 This likewise brought back all the old

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 16, p. 414. 1601. pat. 43 Eliz.

<sup>b</sup> Irish Hist. Library, chap. of Money.

Q. Eliz. base Money that had formerly been decried; so that, besides the Queen's adulterate Coin, at the close of her reign, they had, *First*, broad-faced Groats, coined originally for Fourpence, but now worth Eightpence. *Secondly*, Cross-keele Groats, stamped with a triple crown, coined likewise for Fourpence, but of more value now, and were either sent hither by the Popes, or for their honour had this stamp set upon them. *Thirdly*, *Dominus* Groats, of like fineness, coined by such of our Kings who styled themselves *Dominus Hiberniæ*. *Fourthly*, *Rex* Groats, of those who styled themselves Kings of *Ireland*, so bad, their intrinsic value was not above Twopence. *Fifthly*, White Groats, so base, that sometimes nine of them were given for an *English* Shilling. They had also Brass Harpers, which were as big as a Shilling, but went for no more than a Penny, and Farthings of the same metal, called *Smulkins*.

The Queen's copper Money for *Ireland* had the arms between E. R. Reverse, the harp crowned, and a date at bottom, 1601, with the legend on both sides, as the base Shilling, the mint-mark a *fleur de lis* within a crescent. This was the first copper Money  
coined

coined by any of our Princes, and as they were coined in *England*, might probably be current here as well as in *Ireland*.

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JAMES I. A. D. 1602-3.

IMmediately upon the demise of Queen *Elizabeth*, the crown of *England* lawfully<sup>a</sup> James I.  
descended to *James* King of *Scotland*, whereby the two kingdoms became united under one Imperial crown; and because<sup>b</sup> the *Scotch* nobility, and others who attended his Majesty hither, could not be provided with current *English* Money, the *Scotch* gold Coin, called the *Six Pound Piece*, was made current for Ten Shillings, and to be equal to the *English Angel*, or *Sovereign* of gold.

The first indenture<sup>c</sup> for coinage is with Sir *Richard Martin*, and his son, masters and workers, dated the twenty-first of *May*, in his first year, for coining gold of twenty-three carrats, three grains and a half fine, into pieces of Ten Shillings, Five Shillings, and Two Shillings and Sixpence, (which

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 1. Jac. 1, c. 1.  
tom. 16, p. 605.

<sup>b</sup> Proclamation in Rymer,

<sup>c</sup> Mint Books.

James I. must be Angels, Half and Quarter Angels,) privy mark a *fleur de lis*; and of Crown gold twenty-two carrats fine, pieces of Twenty Shillings, Ten Shillings, Five Shillings, and Two Shillings and Sixpence (meaning Sovereigns, Half Sovereigns, Crowns, and Half Crowns,) privy mark the thistle; and of silver, Crowns, Half Crowns, Shillings, Sixpences, Twopences, Pence, and Halfpence; all of the same weight and goodness, as were coined by the forty-third of Queen *Elizabeth*. Those first Coins are known from others of the same species, by the titles ANG. SCO. For the next year, by proclamation<sup>a</sup> dated the twentieth of *October*, King *James* assumed the title of King of *Great Britain*, which style was directed by the proclamation to be thenceforth used upon the Coin.

The eleventh of *November* was a new indenture with the same persons as before, raising the pound of Crown gold to thirty-seven Pounds, four Shillings in tale, and the pound of silver into sixty-two Shillings by tale, to be coined into several new species of Money, as particu-

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 16, p. 603.



larly specified in a proclamation for making the same current, bearing date the sixteenth of the same month. Mr. Lownds<sup>a</sup> has misplaced this indenture to his first year. James I.

The proclamation<sup>b</sup> sets forth, That, to remedy the inconvenience by the *Scotch* Coin, being current here at equal value with the *English*, and to prevent the exportation of the *English* gold Coin, as had been done of late in large quantities, the same not bearing a due proportion to the silver, as in other nations; and being worth more in its true value than allowed for here, his Majesty had caused new Coins, both of gold and silver, to be made of several stamps, weights, and values, but of one uniform standard and allay, to be current within the kingdom of *Great Britain*. That is to say,

“ One piece of gold of the value of  
 “ twenty Shillings sterling, to be called the  
 “ *Unitie*, stamped on the one side with our  
 “ picture formerly used, with this our  
 “ style, *Jacobus. D. G. Mag. Brit. Franc.*  
 “ & *Hib. Rex*. And on the other side our  
 “ armes crowned, and with this word,  
 “ *Faciam eos in Gentem unam*.

<sup>a</sup> P. 52.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 16, p. 605.

James I.

“ One other gould Money of tenne Shillings, to be called the *Double Crowne*.

“ And one other gould Money of five Shillings, to be called the *Britainè Crowne*; on the one side with oure picture accustomed, and oure stile as aforefaid; and on the other side oure armes, and this word, *Henricus Rosas, Regna Jacobus*.

“ One other piece of four Shillings, to be called the *Thistle Crowne*, having on the one side a rose crowned, and oure title, *Ja. D. G. Mag. Brit. F. & H. Rex*; and on the other side a thistle flower crowned, with this word, *Tueatur Unita Deus*.

“ Also, pieces of two Shillings Sixpence, to be called *Halfe Crownes*, with oure picture accustomed, and this word, *J. D. G. Rosa sine Spina*; and on the other side oure armes, and this word, *Tueatur Unita Deus*.

“ And for silver Moneys, pieces of *Five Shillings*, and *Two Shillings Six-pence*, having on the one side oure picture on horseback, and oure stile aforefaid.

“ And pieces of *Twelve-pence*, and *Six-pence*, having oure picture formerly  
“ used

“ used, and oure stile as aforesaid, and on  
 “ the other side oure armes, and this word,  
 “ *Quæ Deus conjunxit, nemo separat.*

“ Also pieces of *Two-pence*, having on  
 “ the one side a rose crowned, and about  
 “ it *Ʒ. D. G. Rosa sine Spina*, and on the  
 “ other side a thistle flower crowned, and  
 “ about it, *Tueatur Unita Deus.*

“ And one *Penny*, having on the one  
 “ side a rose, and about it *Ʒ. D. G. Rosa*  
 “ *sine Spina*; and on the other side a thistle  
 “ flower, and about it *Tueatur Deus.*

“ And the *Halfpenny*, having on the one  
 “ side a rose, and on the other side a thistle  
 “ flower.”

The next year, by an indenture<sup>a</sup>, dated the sixteenth of *July*, a pound weight of gold of the old standard, was to make forty Pounds ten Shillings by tale, in Rose Rials, at thirty Shillings each; Spur Rials, at fifteen Shillings; and Angels, at ten Shillings: privy mark, the rose.

The ninth of *May* 1611, being the ninth year of this reign, the King (as usual) was present<sup>b</sup> at the trial of the Pix, and dili-

<sup>a</sup> Mint-Books. Lownds, p. 53.

<sup>b</sup> Stow, p. 911.

James I. gently viewed and examined the state of his Money and mint, and the eighteenth of the same month a proclamation<sup>a</sup> was made to prevent the culling out, melting, and transporting the weighty gold Money, gold becoming so scarce in *England*, that for near two years there was not any usual payment made in gold, and the gold Coin called the *Unitie*, which was here worth but twenty Shillings, was valued in foreign parts at twenty-two Shillings. This was owing to the great quantity of silver brought into *Europe*, upon the opening of the mines of *Peru* and *Mexico*. For remedying this inconveniency, the gold Money was raised two Shillings in the Pound by proclamation, the twenty-third of *November*, viz.

	s.	d.
The piece of gold called the <i>Unitie</i>	22	
The piece of gold called the <i>Double</i>	11	
<i>Crown</i> - - - - -		
<i>Britaine Crowne</i>	5	6
<i>Thistle Crowne</i>	2	9
The piece of gold of <i>Scotland</i> called	11	
the <i>Six Pound Piece</i> - - -		

<sup>a</sup> Stow, p. 912.



All other pieces of gold of the Coin of James I.  
any former Kings of this realm, at that  
time current, were to bear the like increase  
of price in proportion, viz.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Every piece of	30		To be now	33	
gold formerly	20			22	
	15		current for	16	6
current for	10			11	
	5			5	6
	2	6		2	9

The following year, by indenture<sup>a</sup> with Sir *Richard Martin*, master and worker, dated the eighteenth of *May*, a pound of gold of the old standard, was to make forty-four Pounds by tale, in Rose Rials, Spur Rials, and Angels: and the pound of crown gold forty Pounds, eighteen Shillings, and Fourpence, in Unites at twenty-two Shillings, double Crowns at eleven Shillings, *British* Crowns at five Shillings and Sixpence, Thistle Crowns at four Shillings and Fourpence three Farthings, or Half *British* Crowns at two Shillings and Ninepence a-piece. And upon

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, Rymer, tom. 17, p. 19.

James I. the death of Sir *Richard Martin*, a commission<sup>a</sup>, dated the twenty-third of *August* 1615, was directed to the Lord *Knivet*, and *Edmund Doobleday*, warden, and other officers of the mint, to coin the same sort of Money as had been formerly coined by the said indenture of the eighteenth of *May*; so that the pound of fine gold was raised seven Pounds ten Shillings, and the pound of crown gold seven Pounds eight Shillings and Fourpence above what it was in Queen *Elizabeth's* time.

The third of *September*, 1619, in the seventeenth year of King *James*, was a new Coin<sup>b</sup> with his head surrounded with a laurel, wherefore it soon got the name of *Laurels* among the vulgar, of different values, viz. Twenty Shillings, with XX. behind the head, ten Shillings, with X. and five Shillings with V. These were of crown gold; and the same year were coined pieces of thirty Shillings, fifteen Shillings, and ten Shillings, and new Angels of the old standard. These were probably the same species and value as mentioned in an indenture in his twenty-first

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 17, p. 19. 1617, Pat. 15 J. 1. p. 13. dorſ.

<sup>b</sup> Camden's Annals of James I. 1619,

year. This indenture<sup>a</sup> is dated the seventeenth of *July*, with *Randal Cranfield*, master-worker in the *Tower*, for making Rose Rials at thirty Shillings, Spur Rials at fifteen Shillings, and Angels at ten Shillings of the old standard. The pound by tale forty-four Pounds ten Shillings; to the King for coinage fifteen Shillings; to the master two Shillings; and to the moniers four Shillings: and of crown gold, Unites, at twenty Shillings, forty-one to the pound; Double Crowns at ten Shillings, and *Britain* Crowns at five Shillings: which standard of twenty-two carrats fine, and two allay, the King ordained and established to be the right standard of the said three Monies. For coinage of the same fifteen Shillings per pound to the King, and six Shillings and Fivepence to the master and moniers: and of silver Money, pieces of five Shillings, half five Shillings, Shillings, (sixty-two to the pound) half Shillings, Twopences, Pence, and Halfpence. But, upon divers complaints, the said *Cranfield*<sup>b</sup> was sequestered the thir-

<sup>a</sup> 21 James I. 19. pt. Claus. N<sup>o</sup> 2.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer's *Fœdera*, tom. 18, p. 6.

James I. tenth of *January*, in the last year of King *James*.

There were likewise four different proclamations<sup>a</sup> in his tenth, sixteenth, twentieth, and twenty-second year, to prevent the exportation and consumption of Coin and bullion; and to bring the same, as well into the kingdom, as into the mint. For this purpose, a price was set upon the several species of foreign Coin. All profit to be made hereof upon the exchange of gold and silver Money was prohibited, as well as the melting of Coin; and to prevent unnecessary waste; all gold and silver foliage was forbid to be used on buildings, furniture, cloaths, or other ornaments, except in armour or weapons, or in arms or ensigns of honour, at funerals, or monuments of the dead; and forbidding the making of gold and silver thread, and enjoining that the statute of the fourth of *Henry* the Seventh should be duly observed; and, *Lastly*, the King abolished the company of Gold Wire-Drawers: but, as to the exportation, there was a saving clause for the *East-India* Company, not to discharge any liberty which they had, by the

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 17, p. 133, 376, 605.



lawful use and practice of their charter, being a company that deserved so well to be upheld and encouraged. James I.

The Sovereign of his first coinage of crown gold, or new sterling, has his figure in wrought armour, crowned, looking to the left; the scepter in his right hand resting upon his shoulder, and orb in his left hand, being likewise represented with a beard and whiskers, which we see upon all his Money, but had not been used before since *Henry* the Third, except upon the broad-faced silver, and the gold Money of *Henry* the Eighth; JACOBVS. D. G. ANG. SCO. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, in a shield crowned between I. R. the arms, viz. quarterly; first and fourth, *France* and *England*, quarterly; second, *Scotland*; third, *Ireland*; with this epigraphe, which he had formerly used upon some of his *Scotch* Coins; EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI. (*Psalms* lxviii. v. i.) A thistle-head the mint-mark.

The Half Sovereign has the King's bust in armour, crowned, and a long beard, the like epigraphe, but HIBER. for HIB. and the same reverse.

The

**James I.** The Unite, or Sovereign of crown gold, vulgarly called *Scepter*, from the scepter thereon, has the King's figure like a Sovereign, but in plain armour; his style being now altered upon the Money; IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HI. REX. But on his great seal he still continued the title of *England* and *Scotland*, because there were still separate seals as distinct kingdoms. The reverse of this is also like the Sovereign, but with a different and suitable motto; FACIAM. EOS. IN. GENTEM. VNAM. These have various mint-marks, as a castle, *fleur de lis*, thistle, cinquefoil, &c.

2 S. Pl. V.  
N<sup>o</sup> 38.

The Double Crown has his bust crowned, with the like epigraphe and reverse as the former, but this legend, HENRIC. ROSAS. REGNA. IACOBVS. alluding to the union of the two roses, or houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, by *Henry* the Seventh, and of the two kingdoms by himself, as he observed in his first speech to his Parliament. This has a rose for the mint-mark.

Another, after the raising of the gold, has XI. behind the head.

The *Britaine* Crown is like the Double Crown, but has I. R. on the sides of the crown

crown above the arms. A rose the mint-  
mark. James I.

The Thistle Crown has a rose slipt and crowned, between I. R. and this epigraphe, IA. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX. S. P. VI.  
Reverse, TVEATVR. VNITA. DEVS. A thif- Nº 54.  
tle slipt and crowned between I. R. and a castle the mint-mark.

The Half Crown has the King's bust crowned as before, I. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse like the *Britaine* Crown, only in this the shield of arms extends, at top, to the edge of the Coin. A *fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

The Rose Rial, or Royal, of thirty Shillings, is the very same Coin which in the times of his predecessors was called a *Sovereign*, being of fine gold, exhibiting his figure sitting upon his throne, in state, with the portcullis at his feet, like theirs, IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIBER. REX. Reverse, the double rose, with the arms as before described, in the center, and the legend used by Queen *Mary*, A. DNO. FACTVM. EST. ISTVD. ET. EST. MIRAB. IN. OCV. NRIS. Mint-marks, a castle, a rose, a key, &c.

His

James I. His Spur Rial has his figure like the old Rial or Noble, standing in a ship in armour, and crowned, a sword in his right hand, and in his left a large shield with his arms. Upon the side of the ship a rose, and at the head a flag, with the initial letter *I.* in it; *IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX.* Reverse, a sun with a rose in the center, the four cardinal rays *flori*, with a *fleur de lis* at the points, and a lion of *England* under a crown in each quarter, all within the old rose as usual, very nearly resembling Queen *Mary's* Rial, (except in the fashion of the ship) and with the same legend, but in *Roman* characters; *A. DNO. FACTVM. EST. ISTVD. ET. EST. MIRABILE.* A rose the mint-mark.

The Thirty Shilling Pieces, of the old standard, coined in his seventeenth year, have the figure of the King sitting in his chair of state, in his robes, having about his neck a large ruff, (which I have not observed upon any other of his Coins) and likewise the collar of the garter, (which he first put upon his great seal, and upon his gold Money.) The crown upon his head, scepter in his right hand, and orb  
in



in his left, resting his feet upon a port-  
 cullis; the ground diapered with roses and  
*fleurs de lis*, and the back of the chair  
 adorned with thistles; IACOBVS D. G. MA.  
 BRI. FR. ET. HI. REX. Reverse, an esco-  
 cheon of the arms within a broad circle,  
 both divided by the old cross *flori*; each  
 quarter of the circle charged with a lion  
 of *England*, between a *fleur de lis* and a rose,  
 and over the arms XXX. for the value.  
 The mint-marks various; as a *fleur de lis*,  
 a mullet, a trefoil, a thistle.

The Fifteen Shilling Piece, of the same  
 mintage, has the *Scotish* lion sejant, holding  
 the scepter in his right paw, and with his  
 left supporting the shield of arms, between  
 the figures X. and V. denoting the value.  
 IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET.  
 HIB. REX. Reverse, exactly like the Spur  
 Royal.

The Twenty Shilling Piece (of the same  
 year) of crown gold, commonly called  
*Broad Pieces*, and *Laurels*, by way of dis-  
 tinction from the Unites, which were like-  
 wise vulgarly called *Broad Pieces*. These  
 have the King's bust laureat, looking to  
 the right, and XX. behind the head.  
 IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB.  
 REX.

**James I.** REX. Reverse, the escutcheon of arms crowned, and divided by the old cross. FACIAM. EOS. IN. GENTEM. VNAM. The mint-marks, a *fleur de lis*, a thistle, a mullet, a cinquefoil. One with a trefoil, has a smaller shield than usual.

**2 S. P. IV.** The lesser pieces, of Ten Shillings, and  
**Nº 36.** Five Shillings, are like the Twenty Shilling Piece, distinguished by the figures X. and V. behind the head, both of them bearing the legend, HENRICVS. ROSAS. REGNA. IACOBVS.

The Angel has St. *Michael* as usual, and reverse, the ship with three masts, having a large main-sail, with the arms thereon. On the side of the ship, lions and *fleurs de lis*; at the head and stern a lion rampant, and a like lion in a flag or streamer, pendant from the main-top-mast-head. A mullet the mint-mark.

The new Angel of Ten Shillings is like the former, but has X. for the value under the Angel.

The Shilling of his first coinage, has his bust in armour, crowned, looking to the left, with a large beard and mustachees; XII. behind the head; IACOBVS. D. G. ANG. SCO. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, a plain

a plain escoccheon of the arms, EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI. An escallop, or *fleur de lis*, the mint-mark. James I.

A Sixpence, with VI. behind the head, like the Shilling, and the date 1604 above the arms ; a *fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

The Shilling, after the alteration of the 1 S. P. VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 51.  
stile, IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. and XII. behind the head as the former. Reverse, the arms in a plain shield ; QVÆ. DEVS. CONIVNXIT. NEMO. SEPARET. Mint-marks, an escallop, coronet, or *fleur de lis*, &c.

Another has BRI. for BRIT. with the Prince's devise, or *Welch* feathers, through a coronet, above the arms, being of the *Welch* mines <sup>a</sup> in *Cardiganshire*, discovered in this reign by Sir *Hugh Middleton*, and have been worked ever since with success ; whereas all others in *England* have not answered the charges of working. Nor does *Great Britain* want gold mines, for such have been discovered <sup>b</sup> at *Crayford*-

<sup>a</sup> Chamb. State of England, nineteenth edit. 1700, p. 32.  
Heylin's Cosmography, fol. Lond. p. 276. <sup>b</sup> Malines,  
p. 183, 184.

James I. *Moore* in *Scotland*, in the sands of the river, twenty-two carrats fine, and the like in *England*, at *Brickill-Hill*, near *Spilisbury* in *Lancashire*; but it is not likely they afforded any quantity to set the mints at work.

The Twopence has his Majesty's bust like the Shilling, with II. behind the head; I. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, a plain shield of the arms, with a thistle head above it, and the same mint-mark.

1 S.P.VI. The Penny has I. behind the head, and  
N<sup>o</sup> 52. the same mint-mark.

Another with a *fleur de lis* for the mint-mark, has two sceptres in saltier behind the arms.

The Rose Twopence has a rose crowned, I. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, a thistle crowned, TVEATVR. VNITA. DEVS. A thistle the mint-mark.

The Penny like the Twopence, but wants the crown: Some of these have the motto, *Tueatur Unita Deus*, on both sides, and are heavier than the former.

The Halfpennies have the rose on one side, and thistle on the other, without any inscription; but some have the rose on both sides.

There



There is likewise a very neat Penny of <sup>James I.</sup> the milled sort, weighing six grains, having <sup>2 S.P.IV.</sup> on one side the letters I. R. under a crown, <sup>Nº 37.</sup> and between a small rose and thistle. Reverse, a portcullis, crowned.

The Crown Piece of the first coinage, exhibits the King on horseback in armour, crowned, and holding a drawn sword upon his shoulder: upon the trappings of the horse a rose, crowned, IACOBVS. D. G. ANG. SCO. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, an escoccheon of the arms, EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI. A thistle-head the mint-mark.

The Half Crown like the Crown.

The Crown and Half Crown, after he took the stile of *Great Britain*, has his figure like the former, only the rose and crown upon the horse-trappings are smaller; IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRI. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse as before, but a different legend; QUÆ. DEVS. CONI-VNXIT. NEMO. SEPARET. A *fleur de lis* or thistle the mint-mark.

There is also an *English* Crown, with the thistle, crowned, upon the horse's furniture.

James I.

The necessity of coining copper Money at this time, appeared by the prodigious quantity of private tokens of lead and brass, which every tradesman made and paid for Halfpence. Sir *Robert Cotton*<sup>a</sup> reckoned there were above three thousand retailers of victuals and small wares, in and about *London*, that used their own tokens; that, one with another, cost yearly five Pounds a-piece, whereof the tenth remained not to them at the year's end; and when they renewed their store, it amounted to fifteen thousand Pounds, besides what was in other parts of the kingdom. He therefore proposed the coining of tokens by the King's authority, whereby the advantage made by the retailers might accrue to the crown. Whereupon it pleased the King<sup>b</sup>, to approve of the making of Farthing Tokens, to abolish the said leaden Tokens, in derogation of the King's prerogative royal; which Farthing Tokens, being made by Engines, of mere copper, in the year 1613, have on the one side two scepters crossing under the diadem, in

<sup>a</sup> Cotton's Pieces, 8vo. Lond. 1672, p. 199, 200.

<sup>b</sup> Gerard Malyne's Consuetudo, vel Lex Mercatoria, 1656, folio, p. 185.

remembrance of the union between *England* and *Scotland*, and on the other side the harp for *Ireland*, with this inscription, IACOBVS. D. G. MAGNÆ. BRIT. FRAN: ET. HIBER. REX. For these a method of rechange<sup>a</sup> was settled, whereby the subject had the use without loss, and the same were generally current throughout *England*, *Ireland*, and *Wales*, to the benefit of all sorts of people. So that these pieces were not *Irish* Money (as they are generally esteemed from the harp upon them) but designed to be equally current in both kingdoms.

In an old mint-book I find this account of the Money coined in the first ten years of King *James's* reign.

	£.	s.	d.
In Angel Gold by tale -	13177	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Crown Gold - - -	838428	10	10
In <i>sterling English</i> Money	1378902	1	9

But the whole silver Money, as we have it in Mr. *Lownds's*<sup>b</sup> Essay, is thus calculated, viz.

	£.	s.	d.
In his first twelve years	1558014	9	9

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 18, p. 108.

<sup>b</sup> Lownds, N<sup>o</sup> 103.

		£.	s.	d.
James I.	In the seven last years	-	102981	9 8
	And adding, by estimation,			
	for two or three inter-		39004	0 7
	mediate years	- -		
	The whole will amount to		1700000	0 0

The *Scotch* Coins of King *James*, after he was King of *England*, are but few: by *Scotch* Coins, meaning only pieces coined in *Scotland*, of a different species from the *English*, or bearing some national distinction: for, as for those pieces of gold and silver, made current in the united kingdom of *Great Britain*, by the King's proclamation in his second year, though Mr. *Anderson* has inserted them as Coins of *Scotland* in his *Tables*, they may much more properly be called *English*, being of a species never known in *Scotland* before, coined in *England*, and principally for the use of *England*, and no other than the Coins of *England* made current in *Scotland* by proclamation, because it was found inconvenient to have the *Scotch* species current here.

A Sovereign of his first year, is like the *English*, but his figure larger than ordinary, and the scepter very broad. Reverse, the shield



shield of arms, wherein *Scotland* is borne quarterly, in the first and fourth quarters; which distinguishes the *Scotch* Coins from the *English* of the same species. The legend, EXVRGAT. DEVS. &c. A thistle the mint-mark. Coined, perhaps, before he left *Scotland*.

The silver Crown, Half Crown, Shilling and Sixpence, is like the *English*, but quartering the arms of *Scotland* in the first and fourth quarters, *France* and *England*, quarterly in the second, and *Ireland* in the third. QVÆ. DEVS. CONIUNXIT. NEMO. SEPARET.

A copper piece, IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. The branched thistle. Reverse, FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. behind a lion, two points. The half of it has one point behind the lion.

In *Ireland*, King *James* finding the rebellion wholly suppressed by Queen *Elizabeth*, called in <sup>a</sup> her mixed Money; and by indentures <sup>b</sup> the twentieth of *August*, in his first year, and the twelfth of *January*, in his second year, Shillings and Sixpences were coined, and sent over thither, of the same goodness as their old ones, being about three quarters the value of the *English*.

<sup>a</sup> Irish Hist. lib. chap. of Money. <sup>b</sup> Mint Books.

James I. { Those of his first and second year, before  
 S. P. VI. he assumed the title of *Great Britain*, have  
 N<sup>o</sup> 53. his head, or bust in armour, crowned  
 looking to the left; IACOBUS. D. G. ANG.  
 SCO. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the  
 harp crowned; EXVRGAT. DEV'S. DISSI-  
 PENTVR. INIMICI. A bell the mint-mark.

The other, IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT.  
 FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, HENRI-  
 CVS. ROSAS. REGNA. IACOBVS. A martlet  
 or a rose for the mint-mark.

The Sixpences are like the Shillings,  
 but with this legend, TVEATVR. VNITA.  
 DEVS.

The copper Money (like his son's) has  
 two scepters in saltier through the crown;  
 IACO. D. G. MAG. BRI. OR BRIT. Reverse,  
 the harp crowned, FRA. ET. HIB. REX. it  
 is extremely thin, and no bigger than a  
 silver Twopence; and it is probable was  
 designed for the use of *England* as well as  
*Ireland*.

In the first ten years<sup>a</sup> of this reign there  
 was coined in *Irish Sterling* Money, one  
 hundred and sixty-six thousand, two  
 hundred and seventy-three Pounds, eleven  
 Shillings.

<sup>a</sup> Mint-Books.

CHARLES I. A. D. 1625.

THE last indenture, of the twenty-<sup>Charles I.</sup> first of King *James*, with Sir *Randill Cranfield*, master-worker of the mint, being determined by his Majesty's decease, a commission<sup>a</sup> was issued five days after to Sir *Edward Villiers*, and Sir *William Parkhurst*, knights, wardens of the mint, and others, empowering them to coin all bullion of gold and silver brought to the mint, and to continue the same stamp till others could be provided, in the same manner as the said Sir *Randill Cranfield* should have done by the said indenture. But probably there was but little Money coined under this commission; for the fourth of *September*, a proclamation<sup>b</sup> was issued, for making the Silver Coin of *France*, called the *Cardecue*, current at nineteen Pence Halfpenny, which his Majesty received for the Queen's portion, and intended to have had new stamped at the *Tower*; but by reason the plague had taken hold of many of the workmen of the mint, was prevented; under colour of this

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 18, p. 6, 1 April.<sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 184.

Charles I. proclamation, other like Monies, which were light, having been imported, another proclamation<sup>a</sup> was made the twenty-sixth of *July* following, to prohibit the currency of these *Cardecues*. The next year, by a commission<sup>b</sup> dated the fourteenth of *August*, the two wardens before-mentioned, *Richard Rogers*, Esq. comptroller, and *Andrew Palmer*, Esq. assay-master, or any three of them, were appointed commissioners for coining Money of silver and gold, in such species as were usually coined in the mint, with the King's picture, titles, arms, and inscriptions, as formerly they did, till his Majesty should make a further settling. The silver to make of current Money three Pounds ten Shillings and Sixpence, and the crown gold forty-four pounds by tale, to be delivered by weight, as was then done : and the warden was to take up for the King's use, of every pound weight of silver Money five Shillings and Sixpence by tale, out of which the monies were to have a Penny for the better sizing the Money, and fourteen Pence for the working, as then used ; and of every pound of

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 18, p. 736.    <sup>b</sup> Ib. 740, 2 Car. 1 pat. 2.



crown gold two Pounds twelve Shillings, out of which to be allowed for workmanship five Shillings; and the commissioners were to be allowed after the rate of seventeen Pence upon every pound weight of Angel and Crown Gold, out of the six Shillings for coining Angel Gold, and six Shillings and Fivepence for Crown Gold, formerly allowed; and for every pound weight of silver fourteen Pence. The same powers were renewed by another commission<sup>a</sup> to the same effect, dated the seventh of *September* following, to continue until the indenture intended to be made was fully effected.

This indenture<sup>b</sup> is dated the eighth of *November*, in his second year, with Sir *Robert Harley*, Knight of the *Bath*, master and worker of the Monies of gold and silver, within his Majesty's *Tower of London*, and realm of *England*, whereby a pound of gold of the right old standard of *England*, viz. twenty-three carrats, three grains and a half fine, and half a grain allay, was to make forty-four Pounds ten Shillings *sterling* by tale; in Rose Rials at thirty

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 18, p. 752. A.D. 1606. 2 Car. 1 p. 2.

<sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 67. Mint-Books.

Charles I. Shillings a-piece, Spur Rials at fifteen, and Angels at ten Shillings; and of crown gold (twenty-two carrats fine, and two carrats allay) forty-one pounds *sterling* by tale; in Unites at twenty Shillings, Double Crowns at ten Shillings, and *Britain* Crowns at five Shillings; and the pound of silver, of the old right standard of the silver Monies of *England*, namely, eleven ounces two pennyweights fine, and eighteen pennyweights allay, to be coined into pieces of five Shillings, the half five Shillings, Shillings, (sixty-two to the pound *Troy*,) Half Shillings, Twopenny Pieces, Pennies, and Halfpennies; and the master was to make of every hundred weight of silver four pounds weight of small Monies, viz. two pounds weight of Twopences, one pound and a half of Pence, and half a pound of Halfpence. The King was to have for coinage out of every pound of gold fifteen Shillings; of which the master was to have six Shillings for fine gold, and six Shillings and Fivepence for crown gold, for all expences about the same, paying the moniers two Shillings; so there remained to the King upon every pound coined,

nine

nine Shillings *sterling* upon fine, and eight Shillings Sevenpence upon crown gold, and to the merchants forty-three Pounds fifteen Shillings. And out of every pound of silver the King was to have two Shillings, out of which to the master fourteen Pence, whereof the moniers were to have Eightpence ; so remained to the King Tenpence, and to the bringers three Pounds. And the master was allowed for remedy of fine gold, the eighth part of a carrat ; for crown gold one sixth part of a carrat ; and for silver, two pennyweights of silver : and over and above the ordinary price, the moniers and workers were to be allowed one Penny of every pound of silver in tale, for the better sizing thereof, so long as the Monies were well forged and coined ; and out of the King's profits were to be paid the salaries, diet, and fees to the respective officers, reparations of houses, and other incidents.

In the former reign we have observed, the great quantity of silver brought into *Europe* upon the opening the mines of *Peru* and *Mexico*, had raised the price of gold, and caused it to be exported ; so that for two years, hardly any usual payments were

Charles I. were made in gold: but the gold, by reason of this advanced price, being brought back, there followed as great a scarcity of silver. For it had been the practice for some years among the goldsmiths, to call out<sup>a</sup> the weightiest and best Money, (for which they gave two Shillings, and sometimes three Shillings, the hundred Pounds) to melt and transport the same, whereby the price of silver was raised above the value it was current for. The King therefore<sup>b</sup> appointed *Henry Earl of Holland*, exchanger, and by proclamation, the fifth of *May*, 1627, enjoined all the laws and statutes against transportation of Coin or Bullion to be strictly observed, and that none should melt any of the current Coin. And to prevent the currency of light and clipped Money, that in every gold piece current for thirty Shillings, twenty Shillings, fifteen Shillings, ten Shillings, five Shillings, or two Shillings and Sixpence, the remedy and abatement should not exceed four grains and a half, three grains, two grains and a half, two grains, one grain, and half a grain; and wanting more should

<sup>a</sup> Rushworth's Collections, part 2, vol. 1, p. 149, 150.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer's Fœdera, tom. 18, p. 896.



not be current, but any person to whom they were offered in payment, might lawfully brand the same, by striking a hole through such pieces, returning them to the owners, and that the same should be brought to the mint to be coined. Charles I.

And about the year 1630, the Lord *Cottington*, by virtue of a commission<sup>a</sup> under the great seal, made a most advantageous contract with the King of *Spain*, for bringing in silver from thence into *England*, in *English* bottoms; which being landed at *Dover*, one third part was to be coined in the mint, and the other two thirds to be transported with licence; and above ten millions of silver was coined upon that contract, from the year 1630, to 1643. Nevertheless, in 1632<sup>b</sup>, there was such plenty of gold, and such scarcity of silver, that the drovers and farmers who brought cattle to *Smithfield*, would commonly make their bargain to be paid in silver, and it was usual to give Twopence, and sometimes more, to change a twenty Shilling piece full weight, and most people carried scales in their pockets to weigh gold. And

<sup>a</sup> Videt's Append. to Cæsar, p. 24.

<sup>b</sup> Rushworth, part 2, vol. 1, p. 149, 150.

Charles I. in *Hilary* term 1635, twelve persons were fined and imprisoned, some of whom had carried on this practice from the year 1621, and for several years had culled fifty thousand Pounds yearly, which did produce seven or eight thousand Pounds a year, heavy Money, part of which was melted down into ingots, and sold, the rest sold unmelted; several aldermen of *London*<sup>a</sup> were likewise accused of this practice, but procured the King's pardon. These examples, it is probable, put a stop to this pernicious practice at that time.

In 1637, a mint was erected<sup>b</sup> in the castle of *Aberuswith*, in the county of *Cardigan* in *Wales*, with proper officers to be regulated from time to time by the warden of his Majesty's mint in the *Tower*. The thirtieth of *July*, the same year, is an indenture with *Thomas Bushell*, Esq. warden, and master-worker of his Majesty's Monies to be made within the said castle of *Aberuswith*, during pleasure, for the coining of all such bullion only, as shall be drawn out of the mines within the said principality, in manner following, viz. Five

<sup>a</sup> Violet, 12°. 1650.

<sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 20, p. 163. A.D. 1637, p. 13, Car. 1.

manner of Monies of silver, viz. Half Charles I.  
 Crowns, Shillings, Half Shillings, Two-  
 pences, and Pennies; eleven ounces two  
 pennyweights fine, and eighteen penny-  
 weights allay, being the old right standard of  
 the silver Monies of *England*; every pound  
 weight *Troy* to make three pounds two  
 Shillings *sterling*. And the said master-  
 worker was bound to have a privy mark to  
 all the Monies made by him; and also to  
 cause the Monies made in the said mint,  
 to be stamped with the feathers on both  
 sides, for a clear difference from all other  
 his Majesty's Coins.

The *Romans*<sup>a</sup> are supposed to have begun  
 first to mine here, (by their Coins disco-  
 vered here) and found plenty of lead. The  
*Danes* and *Saxons* likewise found lead.  
*Customer Smyth*, about the latter end of  
*Queen Elizabeth*, discovered silver, and sent  
 it up to the *Tower of London*, with great  
 expence, to be coined. After his death,  
 this design was prosecuted, and improved,  
 by Sir *Hugh Middleton*, Knight, coining  
 the silver at great charge (as his predecessor  
 had done) at the *Tower*. After his death,  
 Sir *Francis Godolphin* of *Cornwall*, Knight,  
 and *Thomas Busbell*, Esq. undertook the

<sup>a</sup> Fuller's Worthies in Wales, fol. Lond. 1662, p. 3.

Charles I. work ; and King *Charles*, for their greater encouragement, granted them power of coinage at *Abernisky* ; but Sir *Francis* dying soon after, *Thomas Busbell* proceeded alone, and was constituted warden and master of the mint erected there, as hath been mentioned : and at last these mines were so far improved, as to yield a hundred Pounds a week, besides lead, amounting to half as much. And the mint afterwards proved of great service to the King during the rebellion.

In this reign likewise *Gerard Malines*, merchant <sup>a</sup>, caused divers workmen to come out of *Saxony*, *Brunswick*, and other places of *Germany*, and tried the ore of divers other mines, as *Slaithborne* mines in *Lancashire*, which yielded four ounces per hundred, *Comb-Martin* in *Cornwall*, and *Barnstable* in *Devonshire*, which yielded ten ounces per hundred ; and at *Miggleswicke* and *Wardel*, in the bishoprick of *Durham*, which yielded six or eight ounces per hundred, of which latter *George Duke of Buckingham* <sup>b</sup> had a grant for twenty-one years ; from whence, no doubt, he thought to draw great advantage. But

<sup>a</sup> *Consuetudo, et Lex Mercatoria*, by Gerard Malines, fol. Lond. 1656, p. 183.      <sup>b</sup> Rymer, tom. 18, p. 90.



though they are said<sup>a</sup> to be richer than the mines of *Potosi*, yet lying deep, and hard to come at, and workmen dear, (which is otherwise at *Potosi*) it has not been found to answer the charge of working. Charles I.

Upon the King's setting up his standard at *Nottingham*, the two Universities<sup>b</sup> sent to him all, or very near all, their plate, and a considerable sum of Money; the plate was delivered out by weight, as Money, and secret orders were given to the officers of the mint, to be ready to come to his Majesty, as soon as he shall find himself in a place convenient. After this, marching from *Nottingham*, he came to *Shrewsbury*, where he erected a mint; but *Clarendon* says, that, for want of workmen and instruments, they could not coin a thousand Pounds a week; for after the parliament<sup>c</sup> had seized the *Tower*, most of the officers of the mint were employed by them: but afterwards, his Majesty was attended by the officers of the mint at *Aberiswith*, for which reason the Money coined by them has the feathers, or Prince of *Wales's* device for the mint-mark. When

<sup>a</sup> Chamb. State Eng. Ann. 1700, p. 43.

<sup>b</sup> Clarendon.

<sup>c</sup> 'The Moniers' Answer to Blondeau, p. 27.

Charles I. the city of *Oxford* was made a garrison for the King, *New Inn* was made a mint-house. And these two and *York* were the principal mints, though there was Money coined at several other places.

Upon the first Money of this King, both gold and silver, his Majesty is represented with a large rough about his neck, and upon all he appears with a peaked beard, which is peculiar to this reign.

The Rose Rial of thirty Shillings of fine gold, has the King's figure sitting in state, with the portcullis at his feet, and the same reverse and legend as his father's; CAROLVS. D. G. MA. BRI. FR. ET. HIB. REX. A mullet of six points the mint-mark.

The Spur Rial like his father's, and the same mint-mark.

The Angel has St. *Michael* and the dragon, as usual, with the figure X. denoting the value. Reverse, the ship, like his fathers; AMOR. POPVLI. PRÆSIDIVM. REGIS. A mullet of six points, a castle, or a heart, the mint-marks. These are supposed to be the last Money coined of the old standard.

The

The first Unites are like the first Shillings, having the King's bust crowned, the face turned to the right, the collar of the garter about his neck, and a larger ruff than what we see afterwards upon the Money, and XX. behind the head for the value ; Charles I.  
See  
S. P. VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 55.  
CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX. Reverse, the arms as his father's, in a shield, crowned, CVLTORES. SVI. DEVS. PROTEGIT. A *fleur de lis*, or a cross upon a mount, the mint-mark.

Another with a smaller ruff, neatly struck, S. P. VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 39. has a heart the mint-mark, an anchor, or a castle.

Another sort, much neater than the former, has the head smaller, the bottom of the bust breaking into the inscription, the scarf being gathered in a knot upon the shoulder, the ruff and *george* in a ribbon about the King's neck, and this legend, FLORENT. CONCORDIA. REGNA. The Prince's device the mint-mark. In others the bust does not break into the legend, and the arms are in an oval shield between c. r. Mint-marks, a large double rose, a blackmoor's head, a castle, or a cross upon a mount.

To the ruff succeeded the band, XX. behind the King's head as before ; CARO-

Charles I. LVS. D. G. MA. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX.

Reverse, the arms in an oval shield, crowned, between C. R. crowned; FLORENT. CONCORDIA. REGNA. A portcullis, a triangle within a circle, an arched crown, or a sun, the mint-marks.

One with the band has the arms in an oval shield, between C. R. crowned, and the legend, CVLTORES, &c. having the letter (P.) within a parenthesis for the mint-mark, being coined by the parliament in 1644.

The Half Unites, or Double Crowns, are like the Unites of the same mintage, with X. behind the head for the value.

The *Britain* Crown, in like manner, have V. behind the head.

The Unite of the milled sort, with graining upon the flat edge, CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRITAN. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. XX. behind the King's head, crowned. Reverse, the arms in a square shield, crowned, between C. R. crowned, CVLTORES. SVI. DEVS. PROTEGIT. Mint-mark, a flower like a marygold, and a little B. for BRIOT. who both engraved the stamps, and made this milled Money, as will be more particularly noted under the Silver Money.

Another,



Another, exactly like the former, but <sup>Charles I.</sup> with the legend, FLORENT, &c.

<sup>2 S.P. VI.</sup>  
N<sup>o</sup> 40.

The Half Unites are like the Unites, but X. behind the head for the value.

There are, besides these, several milled pieces, which seem to have been only designs for gold Coins.

One of this sort is a little broader than a Guinea, and weighs two pennyweights, five grains and a half, having the King's bust bare-headed, without the figures behind the head, CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FR. ET. HI. REX. Reverse, the arms in an oval shield, crowned, between C. R. crowned; and the motto FLORENT. &c. and a *fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

Another of the same kind has HIB. for HI. and wants the crowns above the initial letters, in all other respects, exactly like the foregoing.

There is likewise a curious piece weighing eight pennyweights, eighteen grains, and a half, with the King's head admirably well done, bare-headed, and the love-lock (as it was called) hanging before, which, it seems, was so disagreeable to the Round-Heads (so called from the contrary extreme) that *Prynne* wrote a book against it, called

Charles I. *The Unloveliness of Love-Locks*; CAROLVS.

D. G. MAGN. BRITANN. FRANC. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the arms in a shield, garnished and crowned, between C. R. crowned; AVSPICIIS. REX. MAGNE. TVIS. and over the crown the date, 1630. The figure of St. George for the mint-mark, and a small B. for Briot; and this, by the date, was probably one of the first proofs or specimens of his art.

This *Nicholas Briot*<sup>a</sup> was a native of *Lorraine*, and sometime graver-general of the Monies in *France*, being the most able man of his profession then in *Europe*; and tho' he was not the first inventor of the fly or mill for coining Money (as he pretended) he certainly much improved it, and proposed<sup>b</sup> the use of it in *France*, giving convincing proofs of the perfection of his machine. But not only the hammer-men, but the court of Moniers, united against him: they omitted nothing that art or malice could invent to oppose him. And this combination prevailing, his proposal was rejected. Upon this disappointment, he came over into *England*, where he met

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 19, p. 287.

<sup>b</sup> Le Blanc, 296.

with encouragement. He was first <sup>a</sup> made a free Denizen, and by the King's letters patent, dated the sixteenth of *December* 1628, was authoris'd to frame and engrave the first designs and effigies of the King's image, in such sizes and forms, as were to serve in all sorts of Coins of gold and silver; and there is gold Money of 1630 with his mark thereon. He likewise propos'd <sup>b</sup> to work the Monies of gold and silver, with instruments and presses remaining in his hands, whereby he could make and press the Money in a more perfect roundness, weight, figure, and impression, and with less charge, than the ordinary way of hammering then us'd; whereupon his Majesty was pleas'd, by warrant, dated the eleventh of *February* 1629, to refer the same for trial, at his own charges, the officers of the mint furnishing him with convenient lodging in the mint, and delivering him gold and silver, to be converted into several sorts of gold and silver Money, as appointed by the indenture of the mint then subsisting. The thirteenth of *June* <sup>c</sup> 1631, his Majesty appointed commissioners to examine and view his trial and proofs, intending the Monies so made by him,

Charles I.

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 19, p. 40.    <sup>b</sup> Ib. p. 287.    <sup>c</sup> Ib.

Charles I. should have current course, as the other  
 Money made by the ordinary way of the  
 hammer. And whereas at first he was to  
 have only a month's time to teach and  
 exercise his men in the working of Mo-  
 nies, the time was now prolonged, to make  
 trial of his experience, till the King should  
 signify his pleasure to the contrary. After-  
 ward he had a grant <sup>a</sup> *Officium unius Capitalis  
 Sculptoris Ferrorum monete infra Turrim  
 London*, dated the 27th of January 1633.  
 And by his means (*Le Blanc* <sup>b</sup> says) the  
*English* made the finest Money in the world.  
 He likewise graved the stamps for the *Scotch*  
 Money, but does not seem to have been  
 fully employed in the *English* mint till his  
 return from *Scotland*, the first stamp for  
 silver Money bearing date in 1635. And  
*France* might still have been deprived of  
 this admirable invention, if the Chancellor  
*Seguier* had not discovered the tricks of the  
 moniers against *Briot*, and caused him to  
 be recalled about the year 1640, when the  
 mill was first used for the coining of  
*Louis d'Or's*, and in 1645 it was esta-  
 blished in *France*, and the use of the ham-  
 mer forbid.

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 19, p. 526.

<sup>b</sup> P. 303.

During



During the civil war, King *Charles* Charles I. coined Ten-Shilling Pieces, Twenty-Shilling Pieces, and Three-Pound Pieces of gold. The two former have X. and XX. behind the King's bust in armour, crowned, and the lesser *george* in a chain about his neck, holding in his right hand a naked sword erect, and in his left an olive branch; CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIBER. REX. Reverse, a triple escrole, inscribed, RELIG. PROT. LEG. ANG. LIBER. PAR. The Prince's devise above in three places, and at bottom the date, 1643. Circumscribed with this legend, EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI. And the *Welch* feathers, or Prince's device, for the mint-mark, which was the mark of the mint of *Aberiswith*, whose officers attended the King, after the Parliament had seized the *Tower*, in the beginning of the year 1643.

Others coined at *Oxford*, have the date 1642, 1643, 1644, and underneath ox.

The Three-Pound Piece, of the value of  $2\text{ s. Pl. V.}$  three Broad Pieces, is like the Twenty-<sup>N<sup>o</sup> 42.</sup> Shilling Piece, having III. above the inscription, amongst the feathers, and the feathers behind the King's head, of different dates, as 1642, 1643, 1644.

The

**Charles I.** The Shillings and Sixpences have all the King's head crowned, and the value XII. or VI. behind the head, of various stamps, like the gold Money.

Those of the first coinage have the ruff and collar of the garter, like the gold **S.P.VI.** Money of the same mintage; **CAROLVS.** **N<sup>o</sup> 55.** **D.G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX.** Reverse, the arms divided by the old cross; **CHRISTO. AVSPICE. REGNO.** The mint-mark, a cross upon a mount.

Another with the ruff, has the King's bust in armour, crowned, and a scarf tied in a knot upon his shoulder. Reverse, the arms in an oval shield, and **C. R.** above it. A rose the mint-mark.

A milled fort, with graining upon the flat edge, is otherwise like the former, but a much better stamp; it has the *Welch* feathers above the arms, between **C. R.** and feathers for the mint-mark, and seems to be the gold stamp.

Shillings and Sixpences with the laced band, which succeeded the ruff, without dates. **CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.** Reverse, an escoccheon of the arms, divided by the old cross, **CHRISTO.**

STO. AVSPICE. REGNO. A scepter the Charles I.  
mint-mark. It is a very bad stamp. }

Another of a better dye has the arms in a round shield, and wants the circle on both sides. A bell the mint-mark.

One with a harp for the mint-mark, has the King's head much larger than usual, the crown intersecting the legend, and extending to the rim of the coin. Reverse, the arms in a kind of oval shield, between C. R.

One of the milled sort, CAROLVS. D. G. MA. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX. Reverse, an escoccheon of the arms divided by the cross, CHRISTO, &c. A tun the mint-mark.

CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FR. ET. HIB. REX. An anchor the mint-mark.

Another the like, but has a small rose or cinqfoil at the point of one of the flukes of the anchor.

A neater sort has a rose for the mint-mark, and the arms in a round shield.

Another with the feathers before, and the figures behind the head; the mint-mark an expanded book.

Shillings and Sixpences with dates.

One of the milled sort with the King's bust in armour, and laced band, crowned, CAROLVS. D. G. MAGN. BRITANN. FRANC.

ET.

Charles I. ET. HIBER. REX. Reverse, the arms in a shield crowned, between C. R. crowned, and the date above the shield, 1635. ARCHETYPVS. MONETÆ. ARGENTÆ. ANGLIÆ. A small B. for *Briot*.

The Shillings and Sixpences that follow, are all of the hammered sort, the use of the mill being laid aside, in all probability, upon *Briot's* return to *France*, and the troubles increasing in *England*.

One with the feathers before, and figures behind the King's head. Reverse, the inscription in three lines, RELIG. PROT. See 1 S.P.VI. N<sup>o</sup> 57. LEG. ANG. LIBER. PAR. the three *Welch* devices above, and the date below, 1643, 1644, or 1645; circumscribed with the legend EXVRGAT. &c. An expanded book the mint-mark.

The unhappy situation of the King's affairs may be traced by his Money, which grew worse and worse in the stamp, till at last they hardly deserve the name of a Coin, seeming rather the work of a smith, (as perhaps they were) than a graver, and manifest they were coined in the greatest hurry and confusion. But notwithstanding the King's distress for Money, it is remarkable, he never debased the Coin, or raised



raised the value of it, as had frequently been done in *France* upon much less emergencies. Charles I.

One of 1644, miserably performed, has the date under the inscription like the former. Mint-mark, the feathers.

Another, of the same year, has the arms in a round shield, and the legend, CHRISTO, &c. with the date, 1644, in the inscription.

The Sixpence has the titles abbreviated to M. B. F. ET. H.

Others of 1645, and 1646, with the inscription, feathers, and legend *Exurgat*, &c. as before; the latter has a little scroll between the feathers and inscription.

Those of *Oxford* mint have the inscription, feathers, and legend as the former, with ox. under the date.

Those of *York* mint have the King's head and stile as usual, with a lion passant guardant for the mint-mark. Reverse, the shield of arms divided by the old cross, and above the shield EBOR. and the legend, CHRISTO, &c.

Another sort has the arms in an oval shield crowned, and EBOR. under the shield. A third like the former, but on each side appears

Charles I. appears a lion's paw, grasping the shield, and EBOR. at the bottom in a scroll.

There were likewise Shillings and Sixpences coined by the Parliament, with the King's stamp, and known from his only, by the letter (P.) inserted as a mint-mark.

The Groats are like the Shillings of the same mintage, having IIII. behind the King's head, and the titles abbreviated to M. B. F. ET. H. And reverse, the arms in a round or oval shield, and the legend, CHRISTO. AVSPICE. REGNO.

Others have the feathers before, and IIII. behind the King's head.

One with the titles, MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. Reverse, the arms in a very small oval shield, under the feathers. A crown the mint-mark.

Others of the milled sort like the larger pieces; and some very barbarously performed, with a rose or *fleur de lis* for the mint-marks.

1 S. P. VI. N<sup>o</sup> 57. The Groats, with the dates, have the feathers and figures on the head side, and upon the reverse the inscription, *Religio*, &c. with the feathers above, the date underneath, and the legend *Exurgat*, &c.

Those

Those of *Oxford* mint have ox. added under the date. Charles I.

One of *Oxford* mint, 1644, has the titles abbreviated to letters, and above the inscription has the feathers between two *fleurs de lis*, the mint-mark a quatrefoil.

Another of the same year and mint, has the figures behind, but not the feathers before the head, which is much larger than usual, and extends to the edge of the Coin; a small R. under the head, and the legend beginning at bottom, different from all the former.

One of 1645, like the former, has the feathers separated from the inscription by a scroll, with a circle in the middle, divided per saltier, perhaps, designed for a mint-mark, there being no other.

The Threepences have III. behind the head, otherwise like the Groats. Some have likewise the feathers, or Prince of *Wales's* device before the head, and the arms are in some divided by the old cross, in others in a round or oval shield, with the feathers over it, and the legend, CHRISTO, &c.

One

**Charles I.** One with III. behind the head, and without the feathers, has the arms divided by the cross, and above the shield the date 1644; CHRISTO, &c. A rose the mint-mark.

Others have the inscription *Religio*, &c. the feathers above, and date underneath, with the legend, EXVRGAT, &c.

A neat one of *York* mint, has the arms with the cross, and EBOR. above the shield; the legend CHRISTO, &c. and the mint-mark like the Shilling of the same mint.

The Twopences have the head like the larger pieces. Those of his first coinage with a ruff, and II. behind it; CARO. D. G. MA. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX. Reverse, the arms in an oval shield, IVSTITIA. THRONVM. FIRMAT. A rose the mint-mark.

The King's head with the band, CAROLVS. D. G. M. B. F. ET. H. REX. Reverse, the arms in a round shield, and the legend, IVSTITIA, &c. beginning at the bottom. This has a small sun for the mint-mark. Another has a very large sun.

Others



Others have the arms in an oval shield between C. R. the mint-marks a portcullis, a crown, a harp, a triangle. Charles I.

Those with the inscription and dates, have a reverse like the larger pieces.

One of *Oxford* mint, 1644, has a large *fleur de lis*, between two lesser above the the inscription, and the motto EXVRGAT. &c. beginning on the right side. *A fleur de lis* the mint-mark.

Another Twopence has the King's head, as usual; but the Prince's device fills the area on the reverse, circumscribed with the motto, IVSTITIA, &c. An expanded book the mint-mark.

A very neat milled Twopence has the King's head looking the contrary way from the others, viz. to the left, bare-headed, and a large ruff about his neck; CAR. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HI. R. Reverse, two C's interlinked under a crown, FIDEI. DEFENSOR. The mint-mark a small B. 1 S. P. VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 59.

The Rose Twopence has the rose crowned on both sides, C. D. G. ROSA. SINE. SPINA. Reverse, IVS. THRONVM. FIRMAT. Mint-mark, a *fleur de lis*, a castle, &c.

Charles I.

One with a thistle crowned upon the reverse, and the legend TVEATVR.VNITA. DEVS.

The Pennies are like the Twopences, but having I. behind the head. Reverse, the arms, and IVSTITIA, &c.

The Rose Penny is like the Twopence, but without the crown on either side.

A Penny with the Prince's device.

The Crown and Half Crown has the King's figure on horseback in armour, with a scarf, and crowned, holding a drawn sword upright in his right hand, CAROLVS.D.G.MAG.BRI.FRA.ET.HIB.REX. But in some the titles are more or less abbreviated, and the horse in different postures, but usually passant. Reverse, the arms in a shield of different forms, sometimes divided by the old cross, and in others of a circular or oval form, crowned. His first Crowns, like the other species of the same coinage, are distinguished by the ruff about the King's neck.

One has the horse passant in a very lame posture, CAROLVS.D.G.MAG.BRIT.FRAN.ET.HIB.REX. Reverse, the arms in an oval shield, CHRISTO.AVSPICE.

REGNO.

REGNO. A mullet of six points the mint-mark.

Another with the titles more abbreviated, an anchor and a small B. the mint-mark.

A third whereon the horse is something smaller, and foreshortened. An eye the mint-mark.

A fourth, whereon both horse and man are in armour, and the horse is represented upon a full trot, having trappings with a cross thereon, feathers upon the horse's head, and the King holding the sword upon his shoulder. Reverse, the arms in a long oval shield, divided by the cross, and C. R. above the shield. A harp the mint-mark.

Another, whereon the King holds his sword in a striking posture, having feathers upon the horse's head and crupper, and a rose crowned upon the trappings. Reverse, the arms divided by the cross. The mint-mark a *fleur de lis*.

The milled Crown has the King upon his horse, passant, without trappings, and holding his sword erect; CAROLVS. D. G. MAGN. BRITAN. FRAN. ET. HIBER. REX. Reverse, the arms in an oval shield crowned,

Charles I. between C. R. crowned. Legend, CHRISTO,  
&c. A flower for the mint-mark, resembling a marygold, with a very small B. I suppose, for *Briot*. The Half Crown is the same; and there is another like it, but having an anchor, and a small B. for the mint-mark.

A Half Crown with the King on horse-back, without trappings, holding his sword erect. Reverse, the arms in a plain shield, between C. R. The mint-mark a lion guardant, perhaps of *York* mint.

Another with the same foreshortened, and EBOR. under the horse. Reverse, the arms in an oval shield crowned; a lion passant guardant the mint-mark.

The *Exeter* Crown has the horse large, and ill done; reverse, the arms in a round shield, with the date in the circumscription, after the legend, 1645, and EX. for *Exeter*. A rose the mint-mark.

The *Chester* Half-Crown, with CHST. under the arms.

The Crowns and Half-Crowns coined by the Parliament, have the letter (P.) as a mint-mark in the legend.

The Crowns and Half-Crowns coined by the officers of the mint of *Aberiswith*,  
have



have the feathers behind the King's head. Charles I.  
 Reverse the inscription, RELIG. PROT.  
 LEG. ANG. LIBER. PAR. in two lines,  
 above it the three devices, and below the  
 inscription the date 1642, and the legend  
 EXVRGAT, &c. beginning at the right  
 side. Mint-mark the feathers. Those of  
 1644, and 1645, have the titles abbrevi-  
 ated to REL. PROT. LE. AN. LI. PA. and  
 the monogram B. under the horse.

A Crown Piece coined at *Oxford*, has the  
 date 1644 under the inscription, and the  
 representation of the city under the horse.

The Half-Crown stamped in the West of  
*England*, has the King's figure on horse-  
 back, as before, with a large scarf flying  
 behind him. Reverse, the arms within  
 the garter, crowned with the royal crown,  
 between C. R. crowned, and supported as <sup>2 S. Pl. V.</sup>  
 his father's, on the dexter-side by the *English* <sup>Nº 41.</sup>  
 lion, and on the sinister by the *Scotch*  
 unicorn; under the arms the date, 1645,  
 CHRISTO. AVSPICE. REGNO. This was  
 probably of the silver from the mines of  
*Comb-Martin* in *Cornwall*, where, as well  
 as at *Barnstable* in *Devonshire*, the hundred  
 of ore yielded ten ounces of silver, a trial  
 being made of the respective ores in divers

Charles I. parts of *England*, by *Gerard Malines*, merchant, who brought workmen from *Saxony*, *Brunswick*, and other parts, for that purpose.

The Ten-Shilling, and Twenty-Shilling Pieces of silver, which were only coined by this Prince, are both alike, having on one side the King on horseback, trampling on a heap of arms, holding his sword upright in his hand, the feathers behind him; CAROLVS. D. G. MAGN. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the inscription, RELIGIO, &c. in two lines; over it the three devices, and figures X, or XX, for the value; and below the inscription the date 1642, or 1643; the legend, EXVRGAT, &c. Some of these are much broader than others.

Besides the common species of Money before-mentioned, coined by authority, necessity gave birth to many obfidional or siege pieces, where neither mint nor minters were to be had.

Of this kind is a Three-Shilling Piece, stamped at the siege of *Carlisle*, having the initial letters CR, the crown above, and underneath, the figures III. for the value. Reverse, OBS. CARL. 1645.

The

The Shilling, Sixpence, and Groat of Charles I. the same stamp, is octangular, and has the value in figures, XII. VI. and IV. 1 S. Pl.  
VII.  
N° 60.

The *Newark* Half-Crown, in form of a lozenge, has the crown between CR, and under it XXX. Reverse, OBS. NEWARK. 1643, or 1646.

The *Newark* Shilling has XII. under the crown, the Ninepence IX. the Sixpence VI. 1 S. Pl.  
VII.  
N° 61.

The *Pontefract* Money has on one side the letters CR under the crown, DVM. SPIRO. SPERO. for it had been held out as long as there was any hope of relief. Reverse, the famous castle: on one side of it OBS. on the other appears out of the side of the castle, a hand holding a naked sword, and above the castle PC; underneath the date, 1648. This is octangular, very broad, and thin, and weighs three pennyweights one grain. 1 S. Pl.  
VII.  
N° 63.

Another, in the form of a lozenge, has the hand issuing out of one of the towers, 1648.

A third sort is round, of the same date, but without the hand and sword, and, instead thereof, on that side, has the value XII.

Charles I. between PC, and weighs two penny-weights, fifteen grains.

There is also Plate Money, being part of a Silver Plate, an inch and a half long, with the figure of a castle on it; supposed to be *Scarborough*, marked II<sup>s</sup>. III<sup>D</sup>. being its weight. Another of an irregular form, with the figure of a different castle, and under it, I<sup>s</sup>. III<sup>D</sup>. Another I<sup>s</sup>. IIII<sup>D</sup>.

There are likewise pieces of silver, having on one side, near the edge, XII, and NE. at the contrary edge of the other; and a Sixpence with NE. and VI. which some think to be of *Newark*, before the Lozenge Money. But Mr. *Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> tells us, that it is *New England* Money, where they are called *North Easters*; and observes, that the late Earl of *Pembroke* had placed them as such in his collection.

The sum of the silver Money<sup>b</sup> coined by this King, we are told, amounted to eight million, seven hundred and seventy-six thousand, five hundred and forty-four Pounds, ten Shillings, and Threepence; and of gold, he is said to have coined one million, five hundred thousand pounds: but, perhaps, this is meant only what was coined in the *Tower*. Another writer ac-

<sup>a</sup> Appendix, p. 592.

<sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 104.



quaints us<sup>a</sup>, that above ten millions was <sup>Charles I.</sup> coined from the year 1630 to 1643: but by the account of the officers of the mint<sup>b</sup>, there was coined about a million a year, and from 1640 to 1641, six millions of silver.

The copper Farthings<sup>c</sup> of King *James* having been generally current in *England*, *Ireland*, and *Wales*, to the benefit of all sorts of people, a proclamation was made in *May*, after King *Charles's* accession, for the continuance of Farthing Tokens of copper, and to prevent the counterfeiting of them, and the use of others: and the fourth of *June* following, another proclamation, forbidding the use of all others than such as had been coined by authority, or that should be coined by letters patent<sup>d</sup> granted to *Frances Dutchess Dowager of Richmond* and *Lenox*, and *Sir Francis Crane*, Knight; which grant was from the eleventh of *July*, for the term of seventeen years. These Farthing Tokens were to be made of copper, having on the one side two scepters crossing under one diadem, and on the other side a harp crowned, with the

<sup>a</sup> Violet's Appeal to Cæsar, 4to. Lond. 1660, p. 24.

<sup>b</sup> The Moniers' Answer to Blondeau, p. 27. <sup>c</sup> Rushworth, p. 2, v. 1, p. 38. Rymer, tom. 18, p. 108. <sup>d</sup> Ib. p. 143.

Charles I. title CAROLVS. DEI. GRATIA. MAGNE.  
 BRITANNIE. FRANCIE. ET. HIBERNIE.  
 REX. weighing fix grains a-piece, or more.  
 And for the better distributing the same,  
 they were to deliver at the rate of twenty-  
 one Shillings in Farthing Tokens for every  
 twenty Shillings *sterling* Money, and to  
 repay twenty Shillings *sterling* for twenty-  
 one Shillings in tokens, as well those that  
 were made, as those that should be made.  
 But the smallness of these pieces gave such  
 encouragement to counterfeiting, that great  
 quantities<sup>a</sup> of counterfeit Farthing Tokens  
 were made; and vended in *England* and *Ire-*  
*land*, and particular persons, for private  
 gain, compelled many of the poorer sort,  
 by necessity, to take all or most of their  
 wages in Farthings, from such as bought  
 great quantities at low rates, and made a  
 commodity thereof; which had been a  
 great grievance to people in many parts,  
 as well as prejudicial to the patentees:  
 for these reasons the court of *Star-Cham-*  
*ber*<sup>b</sup> took it under consideration, the twen-  
 tieth of *June* 1634, and ordered, that no  
 person should pay above Twopence in Far-

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom. 19, p. 760. <sup>b</sup> Rushworth, pt. 2, vol. 1,  
 p. 251.

things to any other, at one time, and declared it unlawful to barter for any Farthings, at a lesser value than they were vended by his Majesty's patentees. This being still ineffectual, the same was farther enforced by a proclamation<sup>a</sup> the first of *March* 1635, prohibiting the use of any other than those coined by lawful authority. And to the end such Farthing Tokens might be the better known from counterfeits, they were directed to be made with a distinction of brass; which Farthing Tokens, so made, were to be current in *England, Ireland, and Wales*, for the value of Farthings to be used only in exchange for small sums: and the said Farthing Tokens, and all others formerly made of copper only, were to be re-changed into the current Monies and Coins of the kingdom, for the ease of those that should require such rechange.

The first copper Farthings before mentioned answer the description, having the crown with two scepters passing through it, in saltier, CAROLVS. [or CARO.] D. G. MAG. BRIT. Reverse, the harp crowned, FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. A woolpack, or a

1 S.P.VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 58.

<sup>a</sup> Rymer, tom, 19, p. 760.

Charles I. bell the mint-mark. They are about the size of a Threepence.

The latter Farthings are likewise of copper, but with a piece of brass in the middle, having the crown and scepters as before, CAROLV. D. G. MA. BRI. Reverse, FRA. ET. HI. REX. instead of the harp a rose crowned. These have a crown, a cross, or a mullet for the mint-marks, and are heavier than the former, weighing eighteen grains, though not so broad.

<sup>1</sup> S. Pl. VII. N<sup>o</sup> 62. The *Scotch* Coins of King *Charles*, are first, his Sovereign or Unite, of the same value as his father's. It is a curious Coin, exhibiting his Majesty's figure in wrought armour, crowned; the sceptre in his right hand, resting upon his shoulder, the orb in his left; CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRITAN. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, in a shield crowned, between C R. crowned, the arms of *Scotland* in the first and fourth quarters, *France* and *England* quarterly in the second, and *Ireland* in the third; HIS. PRÆSUM. ET. PROSIM. A thistle-head and a small B. the mint-mark; being graved by *Nicholas Briott* before mentioned; who, it is probable, soon after his grant for graving the stamps of the Money, was first employed in



in the *Scotch* mint, because the first *English* gold Money of his graving, is of the year 1630, and the first silver in 1635. Charles I.

The Double Crown has the King's head crowned, extending to the edge of the Coin, and looking the contrary way;  
CARO. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB.  
REX. Reverse, the arms as before, VNITA.  
TVEMVR.

The *British* Crown and Half-Crown the like.

Mr. *Anderson*<sup>a</sup> gives us a Double Crown, having the King's bust crown'd: reverse like the Unit, but the C. R. not crowned.  
HENRICVS. ROSAS. REGNA. IACOBVS.

The silver Half-Crown, or Thirty Shilling Piece *Scotch*, has a flower like a mary-gold, and a small B. the mint-mark, like the *English* Money of the same mintage.  
CAROLVS. D. G. MAGN. BRITAN. FRAN.  
ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the arms as before in a shield crowned; QVÆ, DEVS. CO-  
NIVNXIT. NEMO. SEPARET. A thistle-head, and a B. the mint-mark on this side.

Another has a thistle with leaves for the mint-mark. On this the King's sword

<sup>a</sup> Diplomat. et Numismat. Scotiæ, fo. Edinburgh, 1739.

Charles I. is shorter, and blunt at the point, and under the horse is a small F.

Another has the King's head very large, and extending to the rim, like the Shilling of the same mintage.

The Shilling has the King's bust in armour, and crowned, looking to the left, XII. behind the head. CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. The arms as before, and motto, QVÆ. DEVS. &c. A thistle head the mint-mark.

The Sixpence has VI. behind the head, and the date (1603) above the arms.

A very neat Shilling has XII. behind the King's head, crowned, looking to the right, and with a laced band. CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRITAN. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the arms, as usual, under a crown, and between C. R. crowned; QVÆ. DEVS. &c. A thistle with leaves the mint-mark, and a small F.

S. P. VI. N<sup>o</sup> 56. A Shilling with the large bust, crowned, extending to the edge of the Coin; drapery about the neck, and XII. behind the head. CAR. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. A small B. the mint-mark; the reverse like the former. Another the like, has a small F for the mint-mark.

The

The Sixpences are like the Shillings, but have the value VI. instead of XII.

The *Scotch Noble*, or Half Mark, has the King's head crowned as before described, almost extending to the edge of the Coin, and behind it VI. CAROLVS. D. G. SCOT. ANG. FR. & HIB. R. Reverse, the arms in a shield, crowned, CHRISTO. AVSPICE. REGNO. Another has the shield crowned between C. R. crowned, and the date over it 1636, and a small B. for the mint-mark under the head.

The Forty-penny Piece, or Quarter Mark; CAR. D. G. &c. has XL. behind the head, as before. Reverse, a thistle with leaves under the crown. SALVS. REIPVB. SVPREMA. LEX. the mint-mark an F.

The Twenty-penny Piece has XX. behind the head, and a different legend, viz. IVSTITIA. THRONVM. FIRMAT. An F. the mint-mark.

Another has the thistle crowned, between C. R. also crowned, a small B. under the head. And there is one without C. R. whereon the inscription begins at the top, and goes quite round the head.

The Two-Shilling Piece has II. behind the King's head crowned, CAR. D. G. SCOT.

Charles I. ANG. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the  
 { *Scotch* shield crowned; IVSTITIA. THRONVM. FIRMAT.

Copper Money. CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. the branched thistle. Reverse, behind a lion two points. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. The Half of it the same.

A *Bothwell*. CAR. D. G. SCOT. ANG. FRA. ET. HIB. R. The crown, and under it C. R. Reverse, the thistle, NEMOME. IMPVNE. LACESSIT.

Another, CIIR. under the crown, in other respects like the former, but weighs not a third part of it.

Likewise a small *Bothwell* of *Charles* the First, when the liberty<sup>a</sup> of coining was granted to Sir *William Alexander*, Earl of *Sterling*.

There was no Money coined by King *Charles* for *Ireland*; but anno 1642<sup>b</sup>, in order to maintain an army there, to suppress the Popish rebels, the King's loyal subjects, encouraged by an order of council, brought in their plate to be stamped as Money. The first of this kind had no other stamp than the intrinsic value of the silver, as one pennyweight, six grains,

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 735.

<sup>b</sup> Irish Hist. lib. 169.



current for Fourpence Halfpenny, &c. Charles I.  
 The *Incbequin* Crown, marked nineteen  
 pennyweights, eight grains, and lesser  
 pieces from a Crown to a Sixpence. But  
 afterwards all pieces from one Penny to  
 five Shillings, were stamped with a crown,  
 and C. R. and on the reverse, V<sup>s</sup>. II<sup>s</sup>. VI<sup>d</sup>.  
 XII<sup>d</sup>. VI<sup>d</sup>. IIII<sup>d</sup>. III<sup>d</sup>. II<sup>d</sup>. I<sup>d</sup>. but lighter  
 than the *English* Money, the Crown weigh-  
 ing about seventeen pennyweights fourteen  
 grains, and the lesser pieces in proportion.  
 These being coined by the appointment of  
 the Duke of *Ormond*, then Lord Lieute-  
 nant of *Ireland*, are commonly called *Or-*  
*mond Money*.

There is another Crown without in-  
 scription, having on one side a plain cross,  
 and on the other the value, V<sup>s</sup>. supposed to  
 be coined at the siege of *Dublin*, in 1641;  
 for soon after the beginning of the rebel-  
 lion, there were some coined of a different  
 stamp from the former.

The Shillings and Sixpences of *Cork*,  
 have only the name of the place, CORK.  
 on one side, and upon the reverse, the  
 value, XII<sup>d</sup>. or VI<sup>d</sup>.

The Farthings, with the harp crowned  
 on the reverse, were an *English* Coin, as I

Charles I. have observed before, and not *Irish*, as they are commonly esteemed, but coined for the use of both kingdoms.

There are other copper pieces, which have passed for Halfpence and Farthings in *Ireland*; but for what purpose they were coined, and by whom, is uncertain.

These have on one side the figure of a king, like *David*, kneeling, and playing upon the harp, and over it the crown of *England* of a different metal from the Coin, brass or copper, FLOREAT REX. Of these are two sorts, of different dimensions, the larger weighing from five pennyweights ten grains, to five pennyweights fifteen grains; and the smallest from four pennyweights, to three pennyweights eighteen grains, and have different reverses; the biggest has the figure of *St. Patrick*, with a crozier in his right hand, and a small cross in his left, which he holds out to the people about him, and by him a shield, with figures therein like *Fers de Moline*, four and two, or *Queves d'Ermine*, perhaps intended for the arms of the Titular Popish Metropolitan. ECCE. GREX. The smaller pieces have *St. Patrick*, with a double cross in his left hand, a church behind

behind him, holding out his right hand, and driving away from the church a parcel of venomous creatures, no doubt, meaning thereby the different sects of Protestants. QUIESCAT, PLEBS. Of the latter are silver pieces, about the same weight as the copper ones, and these silver ones, no doubt, were Medals, as Mr. *Evelyn*<sup>a</sup> esteemed them; but whether by him rightly placed to *Charles* the Second, is a question. Bishop *Nicholson*<sup>b</sup> places them to *Charles* the First, and in his reign it is most probable they were struck by the Papists, when they rebelled in *Ireland*, and massacred the Protestants, pretending to act under the King's authority, for they are manifestly of a Popish stamp. Amongst other acts of their general assembly at *Kilkenny*, in 1642, they ordered<sup>c</sup> there should be a seal for the kingdom; that the enemies should not be called by the name of *English*, or *Protestants*, but the *Puritanical* or *Malignant Party*; that they should consider of a model of civil government; that Money should be levied; that Coin and Plate should be raised, and that there should be

<sup>a</sup> Numismata, p. 133.<sup>b</sup> Irish Hist. Library; p. 169.<sup>c</sup> Rymer, tom. 20, p. 537.

{ Charles I. forthwith coined the sum of four thousand Pounds to pass current in the kingdom, according to the proclamation, or act, published by direction of the assembly. These were, perhaps, the before-mentioned copper pieces, and they took the fashion of inserting a bit of brass in the copper from the King's latter Farthings, the better to prevent counterfeiting: but for what value they were originally intended, or made current, is uncertain. Afterwards they passed for the value the common people put upon them; and being something heavier than King *Charles* the Second's best *Irish* Halfpence, went currently for such.

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CHARLES II. A. D. 1648-9.

{ Char. II. THE first Money<sup>a</sup> that bore the name of King *Charles* the Second, was coined by Colonel *John Morris*, Governor of *Pontefract* Castle, round which is inscribed, CAROLVS. SECVNDVS. 1648. with the standard in the middle tower, between P. C. Reverse, C. R. crowned. DVM. SPIRO. SPERO.

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 426.



Another has a Crown, with this inscription in the field under it, HANC. Char. II.  
 DEVS. DEDIT. 1648. Circumscribed CAROL. II. D. G. MAG. B. F. ET. H. REX.  
 Reverse, the castle, with P. C. above it, and this legend, POST. MORTEM. PATRIS. PRO. FILIO.

A third octangular, CAROLVS, &c. Reverse, the castle, P. C. having a cannon pointing out of the left side, and on the other, OBS. Weight, three pennyweights, three grains.

These *Pontefract* pieces are the only Coins of King *Charles* the Second before the *Restoration*: for the day the father was murdered, an act of the Commons passed to disinherit the son. They voted the House of Lords useless, monarchy abolished, and *England* a commonwealth. Every thing was altered that bore any marks of royalty; a new great seal was appointed, and Money ordered to be coined in the name of the Parliament and Commons of *England*.

They had before (as has been observed) coined Money with the King's stamp, both gold and silver, distinguished by the letter

Char. II. (P.) and, in *September* 1647, an ordinance<sup>a</sup> passed both houses, declaring, that thenceforth no clipped Money should be current or payable in the kingdom, but to be esteemed as bullion; but, to prevent any inconvenience to those in remote parts of the kingdom, that could not sell them but at under rates, this clipped Money, for three months, was to be allowed of in payment, at four Shillings and Tenpence per ounce; but, at the same time, all persons were to take notice, that such clipped Money would yield in *London* four Shillings and Elevenpence per ounce, at the least. By this means great quantities<sup>b</sup> were sold to goldsmiths, who, instead of melting it, sold the same again at five Shillings and Sixpence, five Shillings and Eightpence, and six Shillings per ounce, which at the *Tower* would make but five Shillings: and this they made a trade of, buying and selling it twenty times over: whereas, if all persons exchanging clipped Money, had been enjoined, under a penalty, to see it cut in pieces, this inconvenience might have been avoided. And though twenty millions<sup>c</sup> was coined within twenty-five years, according

<sup>a</sup> Rushworth, pt. 4, vol. 2, p. 801.

<sup>b</sup> Violet, p. 48.

<sup>c</sup> Ibid.

to the mint books, it was almost all transported and melted down; so that weighty gold was as precious in the kingdom as diamonds.

The commonwealth coined gold pieces of twenty Shillings, ten Shillings, and five Shillings value, of the same standard and weight as those of King *Charles* the First. These have on one side an antique shield, with St. *George's* cross for *England*, encircled with a palm and a laurel branch, circumscribed, THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND. Reverse, two antique shields conjoined; in the first St. *George's* cross as before, in the other the harp for *Ireland*, (as upon the reverse of their new great seal,) and above the shield the value in figures, XX. X. or V. The legend, GOD WITH US; which was the word at the battle of *Lutzen*, wherein the famous *Gustavus Adolphus*, King of *Sweden*, was killed. After, the legend follows the date, 1649, 1650, 1651, 1652, 1653, and even to the Restoration; for I have seen both a XX. and X. Shilling Piece of 1660. A sun the mint-mark.

The silver Money bears the same stamp, from a Crown to a Sixpence, having the

Char. II. value in figures above the double shield, viz. V. IIvI. XII. and VI. from the year 1649, to 1654.

The Twopences and Pennies have II. and I. above the arms, but without any inscription on either side.

The Halfpennies only a shield with St. *George's* cross on one side, and a shield with a harp on the other.

There are likewise milled Half Crowns, Shillings, and Sixpences of 1651, with graining upon the outer edge, bearing the same stamp as the Commonwealth hammered Money; and this is the first compleat silver milled Money, that of Queen *Elizabeth* and King *Charles* being only marked upon the flat edge.

*Blondeau's* Half Crown has likewise the same stamp, but this inscription added upon the rim, TRVTH. & PEACE. 1651. PETRVS. BLONDÆVS. INVENTOR. FECIT.

Another of 1651, with the same inscription upon the rim as was used upon the Commonwealth great seal, which, according to *Whitlock*<sup>a</sup>, was the fancy of *Henry Martin*; viz. IN THE THIRD YEAR OF FREEDOM, BY GODS BLESSING RESTORED.

<sup>a</sup> P. 381.



But whether this was done by *Blondeau*, or Char. II.  
the State minters in the *Tower*, I do not  
know, but most probably the latter.

This *Peter Blondeau*<sup>a</sup> was a *Frenchman*,  
and (as he says<sup>b</sup>) the Council of State having  
seen patterns of Coins made by him, sent  
for him to *London* in *September* 1649;  
a while after he made proposals to the  
committee of the Council of State for the  
mint, to coin the Money of the Common-  
wealth by a new invention of his own, not  
then practised in any State in the world,  
which method would prevent counterfeit-  
ing, casting, washing, and clipping, being  
to be marked on both the flat sides, and  
also about the thick edge; and after some  
time, having given specimens of his art,  
his proposals were approved; whereupon  
the provost and moniers of the mint in the  
*Tower*, enraged to be supplanted by a  
foreigner, made their petition to the Coun-  
cil of State, setting forth, that *Blondeau's*  
method was an old invention, which they  
knew as well as him, desiring to be  
put upon the trial with him; and if the

<sup>a</sup> The Answer of the Corporation of Moniers to the Re-  
presentation of Peter Blondeau, folio, printed for the Cor-  
poration of Moniers, 1653.

<sup>b</sup> *Ib.*

Char. II.

State would have milled Money for the future, they proposed, that whereas they had now two Shillings and Five pence for making the pound *Troy* of gold into Coin, by the hammer, and the State fifteen Shillings and Nine pence the pound *Troy* for working the silver, they would make fair milled Money for Twelve pence the pound weight of silver, as fair as any Money current in *Christendom*, and milled gold Money, as fair and beautiful as the *Louis* and *Cardeques* of *France*, for five Shillings the pound weight, which was under the price proposed by *Blondeau*.

Upon this proposal the Moniers were directed (in *May* and *June* 1651) to make some patterns as broad as a Shilling, a Half Crown, and a Twenty Shilling Piece of gold, in a mill, the motto about the edges, TRUTH. AND. PEACE. And some of the same pieces to have a graining about the edges, according to Queen *Elizabeth's* patterns of Mill-money, and to present the same the third of *July* following, that so the committee might see the pieces, and consider what was fittest to present to the Council of State, for the more handsome making

making the Monies of the Common-wealth. Char. II.

Accordingly, *David Ramadge*, one of the moniers, made a dozen pieces as specimens of gold and silver, with letters about the edge, and with a double graining, fairer and more exact than *Blondeau's* pieces, which he had made to the number of three hundred, Half Crowns, Shillings, Sixpences, and some gold pieces. Upon this disappointment, *Blondeau* dispersed a memorial in his own defence, charging the provost and moniers with scandalous practices. To this they replied, and the controversy continued till 1652. But, in the mean time, *Blondeau* being detected of coining Money privately at a house in the *Strand*, and making counterfeit Half Crowns, Shillings, and Sixpences, plated with silver, the committee presently ordered all his coining tools and irons to be seized, and sent to the *Tower*, which was done, and the moniers desired leave to indict him for treason. What became of him afterwards does not appear; perhaps, by this means having got all the information they wanted, they let him go quietly back to *France*, after having attended the pleasure

Char. II. fure of the State three years and a half. Doubtless, the moniers were not at his first coming so well skilled in the mill as *Blondeau*; but that he was the inventor, as he styles himself, either of the graining, or inscription upon the rim, was false; for the former is seen upon some Coins of Queen *Elizabeth's* milled Money; and *Le Blanc* mentions<sup>a</sup> a *Frank* of *Henry* the Fourth, and a *Quart-D'ecu* of *Louis* the Thirteenth, with an inscription upon the rim.

It is certain, the Money coined upon this occasion, is the first *English* Money with an inscription upon the edge; but how far this was owing to *Blondeau*, is doubtful, since *Symons's* Coins of *Oliver*, which were struck soon after, exceeded any that had been coined before; though, by not bringing this milled Money into common use, it is evident the mill was not brought to perfection, and therefore the hammered Money was continued to the *Restoration*.

There were several designs for copper Farthings. One has the antique shield with the cross under a garland, ENGLANDS

<sup>a</sup> P. 294, 296.



FARTHING. Reverse, the harp, FOR NE- Char. II.  
CESSARY. CHANGE. Another has the cross  
and harp quarterly upon the reverse.

A Farthing with the like shield and cross, without the garland, FARTHING-TOKENS. OF ENGLAND. Reverse, the shield with the harp, FOR. NECESSITY. OF CHANGE. 1649, and has graining upon the outer edge.

A *Bristol* Farthing with the arms of *Bristol*, 1652.

In *New England* Money was likewise coined. This has on one side a tree, circumscribed MASATHVSETS. IN. Reverse, NEW. ENGLAND. AN. DO. and in the area the date 1652, and under it the value XII. The Sixpence has VI. The Threepences have III. but want the word IN. on one side, and AN. DO. on the other.

The Twopences have II. Of these are various sorts, some with a different tree, others octangular, of different sizes, and coined in different years, but all bearing the same date, 1652, when only they had the liberty of a mint.

Of *Maryland* is a beautiful Shilling, having on one side the bust of the Lord *Baltimore*, proprietor of that country, in profile.

Char. II. profile, bare headed, CÆCILIVS. DNS. TERRÆ. MARIÆ. &CT. Reverse, an escoccheon of his arms, viz. Pally of six, a bend countercharged, and on the sides the figures XII. for the value, under an arched crown ; (whereas Barons had not coronets till the thirteenth of *Charles* the Second,) and with a fuitable motto, CRESCITE. ET. MVLTIPPLICAMINI.

Mr. *Thoresby*<sup>a</sup> mentions a Groat of the same mint, and a copper Coin of the same place like the Shilling, with VI. which, no doubt, was the stamp of the Sixpence, for I have seen that of the Shilling likewise in copper.

After the battle of *Worcester*, the Parliament growing jealous of *Cromwell*'s greatness, he resolved to dissolve them, and take the power in his own hands, and a lucky incident is said<sup>b</sup> to have favoured his design ; three *Hamburg* ships, viz. the *Sampson*, *Salvador*, and *St. George*, had been stopped some time before, with near three hundred thousand pounds on board in silver, upon suspicion that it was the property of the *Dutch*. This was such a favourable

<sup>a</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 446, 447.  
Lond. 1660, p. 38, 45.

<sup>b</sup> *Violet's Appeal to Cæsar*, 4to.

circumstance as *Cromwell* wanted ; he sent for copies of the bills of loading, and the value of the silver, and could not sleep till he had got it in the *Tower* ; for which purpose he detached a guard of soldiers on board the ships to seize it, and if he had not got this Money into his hand (says the author) he durst not have dissolved the Parliament. Soon after this, he assumed the title of *Protector*, which was confirmed by Parliament, though he was not publicly invested with that office, till 1657 : but that was merely form, for he had all the regalia of an absolute prince from the time he assumed the title of *Protector*, and coined Money with his effigies, some of it bearing date in 1656, which was the year before his investiture, though the greater part is of the year 1658.

The Coins of the *Protector* are Twenty-Shilling and Fifty-Shilling Pieces of gold, and it is said there was a dye prepared for Ten-Shilling Pieces. And of silver, Crowns, Half-Crowns, Shillings, and Sixpences, all of the same weight and fineness as the Commonwealth Money. They are an excellent dye, done by the masterly hand of *Symonds*, exceeding any thing of that kind, that had been done since the *Romans*, and  
in

Char. II. in like manner he appears thereon, his bust, *Cæsar*-like, laureat, looking to the right, with whiskers, and a small tuft upon the under lip, OLIVAR. D. G. R. F. ANG. SCO  
 1 S. Pl. VII. N<sup>o</sup> 65. HIB. &c. PRO. Reverse, under the royal crown, a shield of arms, quartering in the first and fourth quarters, St. *George*'s cross for *England*; second, St. *Andrew*'s cross for *Scotland*; third, the harp for *Ireland*; and his paternal arms in an escutcheon in the centre, viz. a lion rampant; legend, PAX. QVÆRITVR. BELLO, 1656, or 1658. They are all milled Money, with curious graining upon the outer edge. But the Fifty-Shilling Piece, Crown, and Half Crown have this circumscription upon the rim, or thick edge of the Coin; HAS. NISI. PERITVRVS. MIHI. ADIMAT. NE-MO. The Crown of 1658 has a flaw or crack across the neck.

There is likewise a copper Farthing, with the *Protector*'s bust laureat. OLIVER. PROT. ANG. SCO. IRL. Reverse, three pillars joined together, and on the top of them, the cross of St. *George*, the cross of St. *Andrew*, and the harp for the three kingdoms. THVS. VNITED. INVINCIBLE. The same device is seen upon a small silver medal of the Commonwealth, of 1648, and



and likewise upon a copper piece, which Char. II.  
probably was a design for a Farthing. }

But notwithstanding these Coins of *Oliver*, those of the Commonwealth were continued to be coined till the Restoration, which *Oliver* could do no less than permit to carry on the farce, as he had submitted to receive his authority from the Parliament; so that the Coin exhibited the greatest contradiction in government, a tyrant and a commonwealth, at the same time acting under one and the same authority.

It is said<sup>a</sup>, there was levied from the year 1641 to 1647, above forty millions in Money, and Money's worth, and that the Parliament raised in all upon the nation, during the course of the civil war, and afterwards, above ninety-five million, five hundred, and twelve thousand pounds.

After the restoration of King *Charles*, anno 1660, the State's or Commonwealth Money was called in, both gold and silver, and other Money coined, of the same standard and value as his father's, viz. Crown gold of twenty-two carrats fine, and *ster-*

<sup>a</sup> Tindal's *Rapin*, p. 467. Notes.

Char. II. *ling* silver; which standards have been constantly used ever since.

The next thing to be taken into consideration, was the melting down the Coin, which had exhausted the best Money, and left little else than light, clipped, and counterfeit Money for the current use of the kingdom. This had been owing, in a great measure, to the insufficiency of the laws, the statute of *Richard* the Second extending only to Groats, which were the largest silver Coins then in use, whereby the force of the statute was eluded, and Coins above the value of a Groat were melted down by goldsmiths and others. It was therefore now enacted<sup>a</sup>, That no person should melt any of the silver Money of the realm, under the penalty of forfeiting double the value, and six months imprisonment; and if he was a freeman of any corporation, to be disfranchised. But the best security against this practice was coining the milled Money in 1662, which proved more effectual than all the laws that had hitherto been made. The next year, in an act<sup>b</sup> for the encouragement of trade, it was made lawful to export all sorts of foreign Coin

<sup>a</sup> St. 13 & 14, Car. 2, ch. 31.  
cap. 7, sect. 12.

<sup>b</sup> St. 15, Car. 2,

of bullion, of gold and silver, in regard that several considerable and advantageous trades could not be conveniently carried on without Money or bullion; and that it was found, by experience, that they were carried in greatest abundance (as to a common market) to such places as gave free liberty for exporting the same; and that it served the better to keep in, and increase the current Coins of the kingdom.

In the eighteenth of *Charles* the Second, an act<sup>a</sup> passed for the encouraging the coinage. His Majesty had been pleased to bear out of his revenue, half the charge of the coinage of silver Money; for the preventing of which charge to his Majesty, and to encourage persons to bring gold and silver to the mint to be coined, it was enacted, that every person bringing any foreign Coin or bullion to the mint to be coined, should have the same essayed and melted down, without any charge or defalcation, and for every pound *Troy* of crown gold, or *sterling* silver, should receive the like weight in coined Money, of crown or standard gold, and of *sterling* or standard silver; and if the bullion, so

<sup>a</sup> St. 18 Car. II. cap. 5. 25 Car. II. cap. 8.

Char. II. brought, was finer or coarser than crown gold, or standard silver, so much more, or less should be allowed as it was better or worse, and without any charge of coinage, or without any undue preference in the coinage: and to defray the charges of the mint and the coinage, a duty was laid upon wines, &c. with a clause for paying six hundred pounds a year to Dame *Barbara Villiers*, who, by letters patent dated the twentieth of *August*, in the twelfth year of his Majesty's reign, had a grant of Twopence by tale out of every pound *Troy* of silver Monies, for twenty-one years. Very great quantities of gold and silver were brought to the mint by means of this act, which was therefore continued by the succeeding Princes.

The first Money of King *Charles* the Second, after his restoration, was coined by indenture<sup>a</sup> with Sir *Ralph Freeman*, to be of the same goodness as his father's, both for gold and silver. This was of the hammered sort; for, probably, the minters, who were employed to coin *Oliver's* milled Money, being under apprehensions of danger, upon the King's restoration, dis-

<sup>a</sup> Lownds, p. 55.



perfed themselves, with their engines, and it was neceffary to fet the hammer at work immediately, to fupply the place of the Commonwealth Money, which was called in. Char. II.

The hammered gold Money has the King's buft in armour, looking to the right, with a wig (after the *French* fafhion) laureat, the infcription going quite round the head, CAROLVS. II. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the arms in an oval fhield, crowned, between C. R. Legend, FLORENT. CONCORDIA. REGNA. A crown the mint-mark. 2 S. P. VI.  
Nº 43.

The filver hammered Money has the King's buft in like manner, with a laced band, and the crown upon his head inftead of the laurel, CAROLVS. II. D. G. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the arms in a fhield, divided by the old crofs, CHRISTO. AVSPICE. REGNO. 1 S. Pl.  
VII.  
Nº 66.

The Shilling has XII. behind the head ; the Sixpence VI. but there is another fort without the figures, or the inner circle about the head, which comes fomewhat nearer the milled Money.

Char. II.

The lesser pieces, from a Groat to a Penny, have the same stamp and mint-mark, with the figures denoting their value, behind the head; but some are without figures; and the titles upon the Penny are abbreviated to M. B. F. & H.

The hammered Money continued in use till 1662, when the mill took place. There was indeed a necessity for some new method of coining, for the hammered Money being made unequal, and uneven, with small engines which might be worked privately, it was impossible to prevent counterfeiting and clipping. Queen *Elizabeth* had it under consideration in her time, and coined a great deal of Money in the mill, besides some few gold pieces with graining upon the rim. King *Charles* the First had likewise very good milled Money coined by *Briott*, and the same, no doubt, would have been farther improved, and established in his time here, as it was in *France*, had not the rebellion prevented it. But this milled Money of Queen *Elizabeth* and King *Charles* the First, had not the graining, or letters upon the rim, whereby, though in some measure it was secured against clipping, it remained still exposed

to

to be lessened and moulded. Afterwards, Char. II. the mill being perfected and established in *France*, the Commonwealth sent<sup>a</sup> for *Blondeau* from thence to coin milled Money here, which had taken effect, had it not been prevented by the combination of the hammer-men of the mint; in the same manner as *Briott* had formerly been served in *France*. In the mean time, the practice of clipping was grown so bad, that the Money was reduced to less than half the intrinsic value. But the legal government was no sooner re-established, than this evil was considered, and by one warrant<sup>b</sup>, dated the fifth of *November* 1662, one other warrant, dated the eighth of *April* 1663, and a third warrant, dated the twenty-fourth of *December* 1663, “ Another sort  
“ of Money called *Milled Money*, was first  
“ fabricated to be current in *England*, with  
“ graining or letters upon the rim; which  
“ milled Money is made after this manner:  
“ First, The gold or silver is cast out of  
“ the melting-pot into long flat bars,  
“ which bars are drawn through a mill  
“ (wrought by a horse) to produce the just

<sup>a</sup> Blondeau's Memorial, and the Moniers Answer to Peter Blondeau, 1653, folio.

<sup>b</sup> Lownds, p. 95, 96, Essay.

Char. II. “ thickness of the several species to be  
 “ coined: then with forcible engines,  
 “ called *Cutters*, which answer exactly to  
 “ the respective sizes of the Money, the  
 “ round pieces are cut out from the flat bar,  
 “ shaped as aforesaid, (the residue whereof,  
 “ called *Sixel*, is melted again) and then  
 “ every piece is weighed, and made to  
 “ agree exactly with the intended weight,  
 “ and afterwards carried to other engines,  
 “ (wrought secretly) which put the letters  
 “ upon the edges of the larger silver pieces,  
 “ and the graining upon the smaller. The  
 “ next thing is the blanching performed,  
 “ (that is, made white or refulgent by  
 “ nealing or boiling; and, Lastly, Every  
 “ piece is brought to the press, which is  
 “ called the *Mill*, (wrought by the strength  
 “ of men) and there receives the stamp,  
 “ which makes it perfect Money.” By  
 this method of coining, the Money is ef-  
 fectually secured from counterfeiting, clip-  
 ping, moulding, or washing; for the  
 engines being many, large, chargeable, and  
 difficult to be made, requiring a large room,  
 and many hands to work it, it is almost  
 impossible to be done without discovery;  
 and the graining secures it from clipping  
 or



or moulding; nor can it be washed without taking away the brightness and polishing: So that King *Charles* may justly be stiled *Restitutor Monetæ*, and well deserved to be celebrated by a medal, as was done, upon the like occasion, in honour of *Lewis* the Thirteenth of *France*, though the use of the hammer was not interdicted till the second year<sup>a</sup> of *Lewis* the Fourteenth. The milled Money was all of crown gold, and *sterling* silver, which standard has ever since continued.

Of this first milled Money in 1662, is a very fair Crown Piece, something broader than any that followed. It has the King's bust laureat, looking to the left, contrary to the hammered Money, whereon he looks to the right, like his father; and from this time it was constantly observed to make the successor look the contrary way; CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRA. and under the King's head a rose, from whence it is commonly called the *Rose Crown*. Reverse, the arms in four separate shields, crowned, cross-wise, pointing to the star of the garter in the centre; the crowns intersecting the legend, and two C's interlink'd in each

<sup>a</sup> Le Blanc, p. 303.

Char. II. quarter. MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.  
 1662. Upon the rim, DECVS. ET. TVTA-  
 MEN. first suggested to Mr. *Slingby* (master  
 of the mint) by Mr. *Evelyn*<sup>a</sup>, out of a  
 vignette of Cardinal *de Richileau*'s Greek Tes-  
 tament, printed at the *Louvre*; and in  
 imitation of our's, the *French* had soon after  
 their circumscription about the Coin. The  
 arms, as they are here marshalled, have in  
 the top and bottom shield, *France* and  
*England* quarterly; *Ireland* on the dexter-  
 side, (which is the second place) and on  
 the sinister, *Scotland*. But in all the milled  
 Money which followed, *France* and *England*  
 being borne separately, that of *France*  
 (which had been constantly borne in the  
 first quarter, singly, till *James* the First,  
 and afterwards in the first place quarterly  
 with *England*) is placed in the bottom  
 shield, or fourth quarter. This irregular  
 bearing first appeared upon the nativity  
 medals of *Charles* the Second, in 1630,  
 where the shields are placed in this manner;  
 and, no doubt, was originally owing to the  
 ignorance of the graver, who knew no other  
 way to place the arms circularly, than  
 following each other, like the titles,

<sup>a</sup> Evelyn's Numismata, p. 225,

unless (as I have heard) that the arms of Char. II.  
 each kingdom might fall under the respec-  
 tive title in the legend: and this witty  
 conceit has ever since prevailed upon the  
 Coin, except in some of King *William* and  
 Queen *Mary's* Money, where the arms are  
 rightly marshalled in one shield. That this  
 was owing to the ignorance of the work-  
 man, and not with any design to alter  
 the disposition of the arms, is evident from  
 the arms upon the great seal, where *France*  
 is borne quarterly with *England*, in the first  
 and fourth quarters, as it was likewise used  
 upon all other occasions, till the alteration  
 occasioned by the union with *Scotland* in  
 1708.

The other milled Crowns, and Half  
 Crowns, have the King's head laureat, like  
 the former, but without the rose, CARO-  
 LUS II. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, like the  
 former, only, as I have observed, the arms  
 of *England* and *France* are borne separately,  
 in the first and four shields; and upon the  
 rim is added the date, viz. DECVS. ET. TV-  
 TAMEN. ANNO. REGNI. VICESIMO, OC-  
 TAVO. But one of his eighteenth year has  
 the date in numerals, ANNO. REGNI. XVIII.

Another of 1666, has an elephant under  
 the head,

And

Char. II.

And I must not omit the celebrated Crown by *Simon*, presented to the Lord Chancellor *Clarendon*, with a petition to his Majesty upon the rim, being a laudable contention between him and *Rotie*. It has his Majesty's head laureat, CAROLVS. DEI. GRA. and under the head SIMON. Reverse, like the ordinary Crown, but in the centre the figure of St. *George* within the garter, the date 1663, and this circumscription in two lines upon the rim, THOMAS SIMON MOST HUMBLY PRAYS YOVR MAJESTY, TO COMPARE THIS HIS TRYAL PIECE WITH THE DUTCH, AND IF MORE TRVLY DRAWN AND IMBOSSSED, MORE GRACEFULLY ORDERED, AND MORE ACCVRATELY ENGRAVEN, TO RELIEVE HIM. There is a good draught of this piece in *Euclyn*, p. 239.

Another of the same stamp, instead of the petition, has this legend upon the rim, REDDITE. QVÆ. CÆSARIS. CÆSARI.

The Shillings and Sixpences have both sides like the Crown, the arms of the four kingdoms in four separate shields : that of 1663, has the King's head admirably well done. One Shilling has an elephant under  
the



the head, another has the Prince's devise, Char. II.  
 and the same in the centre of the reverse,  
 in the place of the star and garter ; and I  
 have seen one with the Guinea stamp,  
 which, I suppose was only a curiosity, and  
 not current. The Sixpences are like the  
 Shillings, and all of them have graining  
 upon the rim, the strokes going directly  
 across, both upon these and the Guineas,  
 till 1669, when they were altered to dia-  
 gonal strokes, which were continued in use  
 till 1739.

The smaller pieces of the milled Money  
 have no graining upon the rims ; the first  
 coinage of these from a Groat to a Penny,  
 bear the stamp of the hammered Money,  
 viz. the King's bust crowned, looking to  
 the right, in a laced band, and the nume-  
 rals for the value behind the head, which  
 extends to the edge of the Coin; CAROLVS.  
 D. G. M. B. F. & H. REX. Reverse, the arms  
 divided by the old cross, and the motto,  
 CHRISTO, &c. A Crown the mint-mark.  
 Those of the latter coinage have the King's  
 bust laureat, looking to the left, like the  
 Shilling, CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRATIA.  
 Reverse, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.  
 with

Char. II. with the date. The Penny has one c. under the crown, which intersects the date in the legend. The Twopence, in like manner, has two c's interlinked: the Threepence three c's interlinked triangular; and the Groat four c's, forming a cross, with the rose, thistle, *fleur de lis*, and harp in the quarters.

The first gold mill Money has the same stamp as the hammered, but is something less, and has the value added in figures behind the head, but no graining upon the edge.

Another, of the same kind, has his bust extending to the edge of the Coin, without the figures behind the head. It is considerably less than the former, though much broader than a Guinea, and is called by some the *Unmilled Guinea*, as having no graining upon the rim. CAR. II. D. G. M. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX. Reverse, the arms in a shield crowned, with the date above, 1662. FLORENT. CONCORDIA. REGNA. It is the best stamp of any of his Money.

The Guineas took their name from the gold brought from *Guinea* by the *African Company*, who, as an encouragement to bring over gold to be coined, were permitted,

mitted, by their charter, to have their Char. II.  
 stamp of an elephant upon the Coin made  
 of the *African* gold. Of these Guineas,  
 forty-four and a half were coined out of the  
 pound *Troy*, to go for twenty Shillings each,  
 though they never went for so little. From  
 his fifteenth year, we have these milled  
 Guineas and Half-Guineas, with graining  
 upon the edge like the milled Shillings,  
 having on one side the King's head laureat,  
 with the neck bare, which is the difference  
 between the Guinea and Shilling stamp.

CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, <sup>2 S.P.VI.</sup>  
 four shields in cross, with the arms of the <sup>Nº 44.</sup>  
 four kingdoms as the Shillings, but having  
 four c's interlinked, cross-wise in the  
 centre, and the addition of four sceptres  
 in the quarters, surmounted with the badges  
 of the four kingdoms, viz. the *cross* for  
*England*, the *thistle* for *Scotland*, the *fleur de*  
*lis* for *France*, and the *harp* for *Ireland*.

Some of these Guineas have the elephant  
 under the King's head, with a castle upon  
 his back, others the elephant without the  
 castle.

There are likewise Forty-Shilling Pieces,  
 and Five-Pound Pieces, like the Guinea,  
 but

Char. II. but the latter have the inscription upon the rim, like the Crown Piece.

It has been observed, that the latter end of Queen *Elizabeth's* reign, there being no Farthings coined by public authority, and the same being much wanted for small payment, almost every tradesman made his own tokens. This was found very inconvenient to the public, and therefore King *James* and King *Charles* both coined Farthing Tokens; but none being coined during the Usurpation, the former practice was renewed, every corporation, and almost every person in trade having their particular Halfpence or Farthings of brass or copper, of different dimensions and forms; patents<sup>a</sup> were sometimes granted to cities, which continued in use till 1672, when the King's copper Halfpence and Farthings took place.

Those of corporations and towns had generally the name or arms of the place, and the value upon it; as the copper Halfpenny of *Nottingham*, having on one side the arms of the corporation, and the other inscribed, *Nottingham Halfpenny changed by the Chamberlains, 1669.*

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, 379.



The *Norwich* Farthing of copper, on Char. II. one side the city arms. Reverse, inscribed, *A Norwich Farthing.*

A brass one of *Yarmouth*, the arms of the corporation, *Great Yarmouth*, 1667. Reverse, the like arms, *For the Use of the Poor.*

A *Lincoln* Halfpenny, octangular, *changed by the Mayor*, 1669.

The copper Farthing of *Tetbury*, on one side the arms of the corporation, circumscribed, *Armes of that Burrough.* Reverse, *This Farthing is own'd in Tetbury*, 1669.

*Henly* has a Device, viz. the letter H. under a coronet, with rays issuing from a cloud over it. THE CORPORATION. Reverse, OF HENLY VPON THAMES THEIR HALFPENNY. of brass.

The *London* copper Halfpenny has on one side an elephant, whence it is sometimes called the *African Halfpenny*; and on the other the city arms, and round it, GOD PRESERVE LONDON. This is the largest Halfpenny that ever was coined, some of them weighing ten pennyweights eleven grains, which is above three pennyweights more than King *Charles* the Second's best Halfpence, and above four

Char. II. pennyweights more than the Halfpennies  
 which have been coined since.

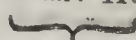
Those of private persons have the letters of their name, their sign, or the arms of the corporation, or company, to which they belong, and their name with the value: and in *London*, the street where they lived, their sign and trade.

As, *Steven Gredier, his Halfpenny.* Reverse, *Of Margate in Thanet*, with the arms of the corporation.—Another, the arms of the *Eastland Company*, and round it *Phillip Cooke at Rederiff-Wall, 1669, his Halfpenny.*—*John and Thomas Barker, their Halfpenny.* Reverse, the initial letters of their names, and round it, *Of In-gatstone, 1668.*—*Thomas Renolds in*, the letters T. R. in the area. Reverse, the like, and round it COLCHESTER, *Bay-maker.*

One with the letters NEV. and round them, *In Ratcliff, 1651.* Reverse, a boy with a pipe in his hand, *At the Black Boay.*

A brass one, with the date 1666, between two roses, *Thomas Lucke in Mercers.* Reverse, *Street, Brewer, his Halfpenny.* In the area, T. M. L. and a rose.

Another

Another brass one, *Elizabeth Pearce*, Char. II. 63, her *Halfpenny*. Reverse, three doves,  *St. Giles in the Fields*.

Some of these are very small, but in general, better than the patent Farthings of King *James* and King *Charles*.

The first copper Halfpence, coined by authority in this reign, was in 1665, having the King's bust laureat, looking to the left, and the date under it, CAROLVS. A. CAROLO. Reverse, *Britannia* sitting upon the globe, holding in her right hand an olive branch, and in her left the spear and shield, whereon appears the crosses of *St. George* and *St. Andrew* interlinked QVATVOR. MARIA. VINDICO. Exergue, BRITANNIA. These were by some called \* Lord *Lucas's* Farthings, from this noted speech upon that occasion; but were soon after called in, to please a neighbouring monarch; they are therefore not very common, especially the Halfpence.

There are a great many other designs for Farthings extant; but the only Halfpence and Farthings made current, were those coined in 1672, some whereof are still in use. These have the King's head

\* Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 478.

Char. II. like the former, CAROLVS. A. CAROLO. Reverse, the figure of *Britannia* as before ; but, instead of the legend, QVATVOR, &c. have only the name BRITANNIA. and the date in the exergue.

In the last year of King *Charles*, tin Farthings were coined, with a bit of copper in the middle, having the same stamp as the copper ones, and upon the rim, NUMMORVM. FAMVLVS. 1684.

The *Scotch* Money of King *Charles*, has the King's head looking to the left, contrary to the *English*, except upon the pieces of the mark ; and this rule was observed afterwards, except upon some *Scotch* pieces of Queen *Anne*.

The Crown or Dollar of fifty-six Shillings *Scotch*, has the King's bust turned to the right, CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the four shields of arms crowned, as upon the *English* Crown Piece ; only on these the arms of *Scotland* are in the first place. A thistle with leaves in each quarter, and two c's interlinked in the centre, SCO. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. REX. 1679. but without either graining or letters upon the rim.



The Half Crown, or Half Dollar, of <sup>Char. II.</sup> 1675, has a small F. for the mint-mark, under the head, and is well executed.

The Shilling, or Quarter Dollar, and the Half Quarter Dollar, or Seven Shillings *Scotch*, have the same stamp.

The Piece of Four Marks, has the King's head laureat, looking to the left, a Thistle under the head, CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRA. Reverse, the four shields of arms in cross, *Scotland* being borne singly in the top and bottom shields, and *France* and *England* quarterly in the sinister, which properly is the third place, and *Ireland* in the Dexter, which is the fourth; in each quarter two c's interlinked under a crown, breaking into the legend; and the value  $\frac{\text{LIII}}{4}$  in the centre. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1674. without graining, or letters upon the rim.

The Two Mark, the Mark, and the Half Mark, bear the same stamp, with their respective values in the centre of the reverse, viz.  $\frac{\text{XXVI}}{8}$   $\frac{\text{XII}}{4}$   $\frac{\text{VI}}{8}$ .

A Quarter Mark has the King's bust <sup>2 S.P.VI.</sup> laureat, looking to the right, CAROLVS. <sup>Nº 46.</sup> II. DEI. GRA. Reverse, St. *Andrew's* cross, with a crown in the centre, and

Char. II. the badges of the four kingdoms in the quarters, viz. a thistle, rose, *flower de lis*, and harp. SCO. ANG. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1667. After this reign, all the pieces of the mark were discontinued.

*Bothwells* of two sorts; the former has C. R. II. under a crown, CAR. II. D. G. SCOT. ANG. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the thistle, NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. the latter of 1677, have the sword and sceptre in saltier, under a crown. Reverse, the thistle well stamped, and legend on both sides as the former.

The first Halfpennies, called in *Scotland* *Babee's*, have the King's head laureat, looking to the right, CAR. II. D. G. SCO. ANG. FR. ET. HIB. R. Reverse, the thistle with leaves, crowned, and legend, NEMO, &c. 1677.

King *Charles* is said to have coined no silver Money <sup>a</sup> for *Ireland*, but, in his twelfth year, he granted a patent <sup>b</sup> to Sir *Thomas Armstrong*, knight, for making Farthing Tokens of copper: they were like his father's, and the same bigness, but thicker; having two sceptres in saltier through the crown; CAROLVS. II. D. G.

<sup>a</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 171.  
p. 129,

<sup>b</sup> Historical-Register, 1724,

M. B. Reverse, the harp crowned, FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Weight, one pennyweight, five grains. The latter Halfpence were coined in his thirty-second year, by patent<sup>a</sup> to the aforesaid Sir *Thomas Armstrong*, and Colonel *George Legg*, for twenty-one years, to be coined in such places, and in such quantities, as they should think convenient, without any provision for the goodness and fineness of the copper, or any comptroller to inspect the coinage; nor the power of issuing limited, to such as would voluntarily accept the same, as ought to have been done; yet these were the best that had ever been made for that kingdom, the pound weight of copper being coined into two Shillings and Eightpence. They have the King's bust laureat, looking to the left, CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the harp crowned, and the date on the sides of the crown, 1680, or 1683, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Those of 1680 weigh one hundred and nineteen grains, the others of 1683 about one hundred and nine.

<sup>a</sup> Report of the Committee of Privy Council, the 24th of July, 1724.

Char. II. In the *East Indies*, at *Bombay*, two sorts of *Roupees* were coined in this reign.

Likewise *Fanams*, coined at *Maderas*, having on one side a King in his robes without any inscription, and on the other two c's interlinked, as upon his *English Money*.

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JAMES II. A. D. 1684.

James II. THE Money of King *James* was Guineas, Half Guineas, Forty Shillings, and Five Pound Pieces of gold; and of silver, Crowns, Half Crowns, Shillings, Sixpences and Groats, of the same standard, weight and value, as the mill-money of King *Charles* the second; viz. the gold of twenty-two carrats fine, and two carrats allay, called *Crown Gold*, the pound *Troy* being coined into forty-four Pounds ten Shillings by tale; and the silver, of the old standard or sterling, three Pounds two Shillings by tale, as the same has continued ever since. So that the pound of gold, which, in *Edward* the third's time, was worth thirteen Pounds, fourteen Pounds, or fifteen



fifteen Pounds in silver, is risen, by degrees, to forty-four Pounds ten Shillings, and the gold not quite so fine neither: but with regard to each other, silver and gold have kept pretty near the same proportion.

The current silver Monies are of the years 1685, 86, 87, and 88, in *England*; and of 1689, 90, and 91 in *Ireland*.

The Crowns and Half Crowns have the King's bust laureat, looking to the right, IACOBVS II. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the arms of the four kingdoms in separate shields, and the star of the garter in the centre; MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1685. Upon the rim, DECVS. ET. TVTAMEN. ANNO. REGNI. PRIMO.

The Shilling and Sixpence has the same stamp with graining upon the rim.

The Groat, Threepence, Twopence, and Penny, have the King's head laureat, with the neck bare, like the gold Money, and the titles as the larger pieces. Reverse, under a crown, as many figures, or initial letters of his name, as they contain pence. But these, like King *Charles's*, have no graining upon the edge, nor have any of these species in the following reigns.

The

James II. The Guineas, Half Guineas, Forty Shilling, and Five Pound Pieces, have the King's head laureat, the neck bare, and the same titles and reverse as the silver Money, except that the centre is void, and the four sceptres are added in the quarters, having graining upon the rim as the Shilling: but the Five Pound Piece has the inscription like the Crown. Of these some have the elephant with a castle upon his back, under the head, being of the *African* gold.

His Farthings and Halfpence are of tin, with a bit of copper through the middle, like King *Charles's* tin Farthings, his bust laureat, IACOBVS. SECVNDVS. Reverse, BRITANNIA. and upon the reverse, NVMMORVM. FAMVLVS, 1685. There was none of copper in *England*, or tin in *Ireland*.

The plantation Halfpenny, with graining upon the rim, has the King's statue on horseback, in a military posture, *Cæsar*-like, IACOBVS. II. D. G. MAG. BRI. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the four shields in cross, under as many crowns, the upper parts of the shields fastened to each other by a chain. VAL. 24. PART. REAL. HISPAN.

His

His Forty Shilling Piece of *Scotland*, has <sup>James II.</sup> 40. under the bust laureat, turned to the left, IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the arms crowned, MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1687.

The Ten Shilling Piece has 10. under the head, and reverse, St. *Andrew's* cross, with the thistle, rose, *fleur de lis*, and harp at the points, and the four shields of the four kingdoms crowned, in the quarters; MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1687. being grained upon the edge; which but few *Scotch* pieces are.

In 1684, King *James* granted a patent<sup>a</sup> to *John Nox*, Alderman of *Dublin*, for the term of twenty-one years, for making Halfpence of copper, and the Money coined by this patent, was declared to be the current Coin of the kingdom of *Ireland*; and 700 tons of copper was computed to be coined within the twenty-one years, without any complaint. They were of the like standard as those of King *Charles* the Second, having on one side the King's bust laureat, looking to the right; IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA, Reverse, the harp crowned, MAG.

<sup>a</sup> Report of the Committee of the Privy Council, the 24th of July 1724, in Historical Register, p. 129.

James II. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. The date on each side the crown, 1686, or 1688. The latter have graining upon the rim.

The 12th of *March* 1688-9, King *James* landed at *Kinsale*, and the 24th entered the city of *Dublin*. Next morning he called a council, and published five proclamations, one of which was, to raise such Coins as were current in *Ireland*. Nevertheless, in three months he was reduced to so great a scarcity of Money, that, to subsist his army, he melted down old brass guns<sup>a</sup>, and kitchen utensils, which being coined into Money, was made current by proclamation, the eighteenth of *June*, 1689, as *sterling* silver, under severe penalties, though the metal was valued at no more than Threepence or a Groat the pound. In *June* 1689 there was coined Sixpences, in *July* Shillings; and the twenty-eighth of *August* the King gave the royal assent to an act for repealing the statute of the sixth of *Henry* the Fourth, against multiplying of gold and silver. From this time we have his Half Crowns of brass or copper, with milling or graining upon the rim. Upon one side his bust laureat, IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRA-

<sup>a</sup> Irish Historical Library, p. 171.



TIA. Reverse, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. James II.  
 REX. 1689, two sceptres in saltier through }  
 the crown, between I. R. Above the crown  
 XXX. for the value, and under it the  
 name of the month when coined, there  
 being of every month following, to *April*  
*1690, inclusive.* They generally weigh  
 from ten pennyweights eight grains, to  
 eight pennyweights seventeen grains. But  
 after *April* to *October* 1690, a lighter sort  
 was coined, of the same stamp, from seven  
 pennyweights seven grains, to five penny-  
 weights seven grains. The Shillings and <sup>2 S. P. VI.</sup>  
 Sixpences, (which bore the same stamp) <sup>Nº 45.</sup>  
 were reduced in proportion. There were  
 likewise some Shillings of silver that bore  
 the same impression. Of this copper and  
 brass Money <sup>a</sup>, from *June* 1689, to *July*  
 1690, when King *James* left *Ireland*, one  
 million, one hundred thousand Pounds,  
 was coined, according to Mr. *Story*, in his  
*History of the Wars of Ireland*; but Bi-  
 shop *King* says, only nine hundred and six-  
 ty-five thousand three hundred and seventy-  
 five Pounds.

But there being no circulation to bring  
 this Money back into the treasury, they

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, p. 383.

James II. were called in by proclamation, and the largest sort of these Half Crowns were re-stamped with the figure of the King on horseback, in armour, holding a drawn sword in his hand, IAC. II. DEI. GRA. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the four shields of arms, crowned, and a crown in the centre. In the quarters, ANO. DOM. 16-90. Legend, CHRISTO. VICTORE. TRIVMPHO. Upon most of these the double stamp appears, and being thus new stamped, were ordered to pass for Crowns.

There were some few of these stamped in silver, weighing eleven pennyweights fifteen grains, with graining upon the rim.

But before King *James* left *Ireland*, even the brass and copper <sup>a</sup> failed, and pewter dishes were coined into Money, and a proclamation was prepared for the currency of it: but King *William* passing the *Boyne*, put a stop to it. A bag of one hundred and fifty Crown Pieces of this metal was found in the treasury of *Dublin*, of the same fashion, inscription and bigness, as the brass Crowns, but with this

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, p. 383.

legend added on the rim. MELIORIS. James II.  
 TESSERA. FATI. ANNO. REGNI. SEXTO. }

The same year there were Pennies coined of pewter, with a bit of brass or copper through the middle, and graining upon the edge, having the King's head laureat, the neck bare, and behind the head the value, *Id. Jacobus II. Dei Gratia*. Reverse, *Mag. Br. Fr. et. Hib. Rex. 1690*. A crowned harp, and the half of it, or Halfpenny, without the value.

After King *James* left *Ireland*, there was another sort of Money coined at *Limerick*, grained upon the edge; which, from the figure of *Hibernia* upon the reverse, were commonly called *Hibernia's*; some of brass, and others of copper, something broader than his brass Shillings. They have on one side his bust laureat, *IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA*. Reverse, *Ireland*, represented by a woman sitting, and resting herself upon a harp, holding up a cross in her right hand; *HIBERNIE. 1691*. Some of these appear plainly to have been the former Shillings restamped.

KING *WILLIAM* and QUEEN *MARY*,

A. D. 1688-9.

W. & M. **T**HE current Monies of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, are of the years 1689, 90, 91, 92, and 93. Of silver, from a Crown to a Penny; of gold, Pieces of Five Pounds, Forty Shillings, Guineas and Half Guineas. Both gold and silver have their heads in profile, looking both to the left, in prospective, (as we see upon a medal of King *James* and his Queen) the King's before the Queen's, his head laureat, the busts extending to the rim; GVLIELMVS. ET. MARIA. DEI GRATIA. Reverse, MAG. BR. FR. ET. HI. REX. ET. REGINA. But there is some difference in the bearing of the arms. The Half Crown of the first year has the arms in one large shield, crowned, viz. first, *England*; second, *Scotland*; third, *Ireland*; fourth, *France*, with *Nassau* in the centre. This placing of *France* in the last quarter, was certainly owing to the manner of placing the four shields upon the former milled Money, where *France* is in the bottom shield, which is the last quarter: for, as a  
proof



proof that on such alteration was intended in either case, the very same year, upon another Half Crown, the arms are properly marshalled, viz. *France* and *England* quarterly, in the first and fourth quarters, *Scotland* in the second, and *Ireland* in the third; and in an escutcheon in the centre, the arms of *Nassau*, being billety a lion rampant. Upon the rim, DECVS ET TVTAMEN, ANNO REGNI, PRIMO.

The Crowns and Half Crowns of their third, fourth, and sixth years, have a different dye, the head and face being larger, and upon the reverse the arms of the four kingdoms, in separate shields, crowned, like those of King *Charles* and King *James*. In each quarter the initial letters of their names, W. and M. interlinked, and in the centre, the arms of *Nassau* in a circular shield, with four figures round it, making the date of the year, 1691.

The Shillings and Sixpences are of the same stamp; but the smaller Pieces, from a Groat to a Penny, have only their heads, the necks bare, D. G. for *Dei Gratia*, and upon the reverse, the figures, 4, 3, 2, and

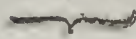
W. & M. 1, under a crown, denoting their respective values.

<sup>2</sup> S.P.VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 47.

The Guinea and Half Guinea have both their heads as before, the necks bare, as upon their small silver Money, GVLIELMVS. ET. MARIA. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the arms in a single shield, crowned, *France* and *England* being quartered in the first and fourth quarters, *Scotland* in the second, and *Ireland* in the third, *Nassau* in the centre. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. ET. REGINA. 1693. The Forty Shilling Piece, and Five Pound Piece, have only some little difference in the fashion of the shield, and the latter the inscription upon the rim, as the Crown Piece.

The first Farthings were of copper, with both their busts like the silver Money, GVLIELMVS. ET. MARIA. Reverse, *Britannia*, BRITANNIA. Exergue, 1689.

The next year tin Halfpence and Farthings were coined, with a bit of copper through the middle, having both their heads, with the legend and reverse like the former, except the date, and upon the rim, NVMMORVM. FAMVLVS. 1690. The Farthing has the date both in the exergue and upon the rim. But these being frequently counter-

counterfeited, new Halfpence and Farthings W. & M.  
 of copper were coined in 1694, like the   
 first, but a better stamp, and exhibiting  
 the King in short curled hair, more *Cæsar*-  
 like; exergue, 1694. Another sort, of  
 the same year, has much smaller characters  
 than the other.

Though the state of the Coin had been  
 very bad from the beginning of this reign,  
 we find no laws relating thereto; only a  
 repeal <sup>a</sup> of the statute of the fifth of *Henry*  
 the Fourth, against the multiplying of gold  
 and silver, by reason of the improvement  
 in the art of refining metals and ores,  
 upon condition the gold and silver, so ex-  
 tracted, was brought to the mint to be  
 coined. And, to encourage persons having  
 mines to work the same, it was declared,  
 they should not be hereafter adjudged  
 royal, though gold or silver might be  
 extracted out of the same: and for the  
 encouragement of coinage, the statutes <sup>b</sup> of  
 the eighteenth and twenty-fifth of *Charles*  
 the Second were continued.

But the grand evil <sup>c</sup> in Coin, the per-  
 nicious practice of clipping, was either

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 1 W. & M. c. 30.—5 & 6 W. & M. c. 6.

<sup>b</sup> Stat. 4 & 5 W. & M. c. 24. sect. 3. <sup>c</sup> Hist. Reign of  
 King William, Lond. 8vo. 1703, vol. 3, p. 49, 120.



W. & M. not heeded, or wilfully neglected, whereby it grew to such a height, that five Pounds was scarce worth forty Shillings; besides a great deal of base, counterfeit Money, clipped, the better to disguise it. The nation suffered unspeakably by this evil, both in carrying on the war, as well as trade. The supplies raised to maintain the army were rendered ineffectual, by the unequal exchange, and exorbitant premiums, a *Louis d'Or* being, at that time, worth twenty-four Shillings, and a Guinea thirty Shillings: the *Dutch* buying our manufactures with Guineas, by which profit, they were able to sell them abroad cheaper than our merchants: and not only the *Dutch*, but all *Europe* sent their gold hither to buy our goods, and our silver, at this exorbitant price; so that the nation was impoverished, and in danger of being undone, by plenty of gold.

Melting down and exporting, had very much contributed to lessen the silver specie, but clipping was undoubtedly the principal cause, which, during the unsettled state of the nation for fifty years, had been carried on with impunity, by those who drove a trade in exchanging broad Money for  
clipped



clipped Money. To prevent this, an act <sup>a</sup> W. & M. was passed, whereby, after the first of *May* 1695, none was to take or pay unclipped Money for more than the value, or to have filings or clippings in their custody, under very severe penalties: None but goldsmiths were to sell bullion, and the same was not to be exported but by certificate, being first stamped at *Goldsmiths Hall*: and in case of seizing of bullion intended to be exported, the *Onus Probandi* was to lie on the claimer. But this had no effect to prevent clipping, or the currency of the clipped Money: for notwithstanding these laws, and many examples of justice, the evil was so general, that no sufficient remedy could be found <sup>b</sup> but recoinage. Various <sup>c</sup> were the opinions upon this occasion, whether to debase the metal, lessen the weight, or raise the value of the several species of silver Coin, (as Mr. *Lovends* proposed) equal to the price of silver (which was then commonly sold for six Shillings and Threepence the ounce) in order to keep our Money at home. But at the same time it was matter of fact, that five

<sup>a</sup> St. 6 and 7 W. 3, c. 17.

<sup>b</sup> St. 7 W. 3, c. 1.

<sup>c</sup> Life of King William, vol. 3, p. 120, 122.

W. & M. Shillings and Twopence of good milled Money, would buy an ounce of silver; so that the difference of the price did not arise from the grater value of the bullion, but the lesser value of the Coin. In like manner, with regard to foreign countries, not the Coin, but the weight and fineness of the bullion therein, was regarded as the measure of other commodities. And we had no way of keeping our Money at home, but by out-trading other nations; and in that case we should not want Money, though we had no Coin of our own. Upon these considerations, the parliament<sup>a</sup> resolved to recoin the clipped Money, according to the established standard of the mint both as to weight and fineness, and that the loss of such clipped Money should be borne by the public.

As to the method to be observed in this recoinage, it was enacted<sup>b</sup>, *First*, That the clipped Money in the exchequer should be told, weighed and delivered to the mint to be coined, according to indenture; the charge or coinage not to exceed Fourteenpence in the Pound. That the receivers of the revenue should take the clipped

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 7 W. 3, c. 1.

<sup>b</sup> Ibid.

Money in payment, till the fourth of *May* <sup>W. & M.</sup> 1696, though of a coarser allay than standard, the same not evidently appearing to be copper, or base metal, or washed with silver only; which they were to pay into the exchequer by the twenty-fourth of *June*, from whence it was to be sent to the *Tower* to be recoinéd, and upon every hundred pounds weight *Troy*, forty pounds was to be coined into Shillings, and ten pounds weight into Sixpences. In the mean time, hammered Money having both rings, or the greatest part of the letters appearing thereon, was to be current, being punched through, and if clipped afterwards, not to be received or paid by tale, under forfeiture; and Sixpences not clipped within the inner ring, to be current, being *sterling* silver: and the duty<sup>a</sup> upon houses and paper, were appropriated to make good the deficiency on the recoinage.

This provision by law to receive the clipped Money, was the greatest encouragement to promote clipping, and gave the clippers all the advantages they could desire, making the crime more general; for now they were sure of a market for their

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 7 and 8 W. 3, c. 18.

W. & M. clipped Money; so that what had been hoarded, and hitherto escaped the shears, now underwent the same fate: and it is not improbable, that more was clipped and reclipped upon this general licence, than had been before, it being too commonly thought no crime to cheat the public: and when the new Money first came out, the difference <sup>a</sup> between that and the old hammered Money, allowed to be current, sent a great deal into the melting pot, or abroad to purchase gold, which was such a profitable commodity.

The want of Coin still subsisting <sup>b</sup> it was thought necessary to give encouragement to bring in milled Money, broad unclipped Money, or wrought plate, and to prohibit the melting or exporting any Coin or bullion, or the use of plate in public houses; which last had a good effect, and brought a great deal of bullion to the mint.

In the mean time a paper-prop supported the state, whilst its silver pillars were removed, which laid the foundation of our paper credit: but there was gold too much, necessity giving a currency to

<sup>a</sup> Life of King William 3, vol. 3, p. 125. <sup>b</sup> Ib.



Guineas, till silver was supplied; and as <sup>W. & M.</sup> soon as this was done in some measure, Guineas were lowered to twenty-five Shillings, after the twenty-fifth of *March* 1696, and Half Guineas, Double Guineas, and Five Pound Pieces in proportion, under a penalty, but not compelling any one to receive them at that price. An act<sup>a</sup> was likewise passed for taking off the obligation for coining Guineas, from the second of *March* 1695, till the first of *January* following, during which time no Guineas were to be coined at the mint, and they were also forbid to be imported. The tenth of *April* 1696, they were brought down to twenty-two Shillings, and being now reduced so near the standard, and the nation better stocked with the new silver Money, Guineas were again coined, and it was made lawful to import the same.

To bring in what silver remained, for a further supply of the mint, all hammered silver Money<sup>b</sup>, clipped or unclipped, brought thither between the fourteenth of *November* 1696, and the first of *July* following, was to be taken at five Shillings

<sup>a</sup> St. 7 and 8 W. 3, c. 13.—8 W. 3, c. 1, sect. 1.

<sup>b</sup> St. 8 W. 3, c. 2.—8 and 9 W. 3, c. 7.—9 W. 3, c. 2.

W. & M. and Fourpence the ounce, and by receivers and collectors of the taxes and revenues, at five Shillings and Eightpence the ounce, and carried to the next mint to be recoined. And after the first of *December* 1696, no hammered silver Money (except as afore-said) was to be current, otherwise than by weight, at five Shillings and Twopence the ounce; and for wrought plate brought to the mint, between the fifth of *January* 1696, and the fourth of *November* 1697, was to allow five Shillings and Fourpence the ounce *sterling*, and the collectors of the land-tax were impowered to receive that tax in like manner, at the rate of five Shillings and Fourpence the ounce, before the first of *June* 1697.

After the tenth of *January* 1697, all hammered silver Money was declared unlawful, and no Coin of the realm, but might be brought to any of his Majesty's mints in the *Tower*, or at the cities of *Bristol*, *Exeter*, *Chester*, *Norwich*, and *York*, before the first of *March* 1697, to be coined. And to prevent the currency of clipped or counterfeit Money, any person <sup>a</sup> had licence to cut or deface such; or being other-

<sup>a</sup> St. 9 and 10 W. 3, c. 21.

wife diminished, than by reasonable wear; W. & M.  
 or that by the stamp, impression, colour, or }  
 weight, he should suspect to be counterfeit.

And as the greatest security against counterfeiting the milled Money, was the difficulty of being provided with coining-presses, and tools for that purpose, it was made high-treason<sup>a</sup> to make or mend any such, or any dyes, moulds, or tools for the same, or even to have any such in custody, or to mark the edges of counterfeit Coin, or to make Pieces resembling the current Coin to be stamped, or to make any malleable composition of mixed metal heavier than silver.

From 1691, to the fourteenth of *August*, 1697, there was brought to the *London* and country mints<sup>b</sup>, eight millions, four hundred thousand pounds of clipped, light, and hammered Money; and, in all probability, there might be a great sum standing out: and the milled silver coined in King *Charles* the Second's, and King *James*'s reign, about two millions, two hundred thousand Pounds; so that all the silver

<sup>a</sup> St. 8 W. 3, c. 25.

<sup>b</sup> State of the Nation, in Respect to her Commerce, Depts, and Money, 8vo. Lond. 1726, p. 17, 18.

W. & M. Money might be about eleven millions.

The gold Money then in the nation was computed at eighteen millions, five hundred and twenty-three thousand, four hundred and fifty-six Pounds, of which might be coined by King *Charles* and King *James*, about six millions, five hundred thousand. But another writer<sup>a</sup> computes the unclipped hammered Money remaining in 1696, at calling in, two millions; and that from the first coining of Guineas, there had been considerably above seven millions coined, according to the registers of the mint, which will add near three millions more to the account.

Thus, after two years, this great work was compleated, and the old hammered Money entirely abolished, to the honour, indeed, of the nation, but with great difficulty, and prodigious charge to the public, besides infinite loss sustained in trade, by the exorbitant price of Guineas, which bought our commodities; all which might have been avoided, if the pernicious consequences of it had been considered in time. Upon a like occasion, during the

<sup>a</sup> A Review of the Universal Remedy for Coin, 8vo. Lond. 1696, p. 6.



usurpation, in 1647, the method then taken W. & M.  
by the parliament was, *First*, To prohibit  
all diminished or clipped Money being  
current or payable, and directing that the  
same should be esteemed as bullion, and  
no otherwise; and then, to allow so much  
per ounce for the same as bullion, being  
brought in within a time limited: and if  
their usurped authority had continued, no  
doubt, but it would have had the desired  
effect. If the same means had been applied  
at this time, it would soon have brought  
down the extravagant price of gold, pre-  
served a great part of the silver from being  
clipped, and brought the clipped Money  
to the mint to be recoin'd at a small  
charge. The loss would chiefly have fallen  
upon those who had made a trade of clip-  
ping, and deserved to suffer and refund  
some part of their unjust gain; for as to  
small sums in the hands of private persons,  
the loss would have been nothing, in  
comparison of the benefit from the re-  
coinage. By this means many millions  
might have been saved.

After this, in the year 1700, there was  
such vast quantities of *French* gold in the  
nation,

W. & M. nation<sup>a</sup>, that the whole trade was in a manner carried on with that Coin, though they wanted Sixpence of their true value. The quantity of it occasioned a report, that Count *Tallard*, the *French* Ambassador, had brought it over, and distributed it to some members of the House of Commons; whereupon the Council made an order, the fifth of *February*, and a proclamation followed, that the *Louis d'Or*, and *Spanish Pistoles*, should not go for above seventeen Shillings; this brought them to the mint<sup>b</sup>, and one million, four hundred thousand Pounds was coined out of them.

The Money of King *William* has his bust laureat, GVLIELMVS. III. DEI. GRA. Reverse, the four shields of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland*, in their circular order, and *Nassau* in the centre, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1696. but, by mistake, some of the *London* mint have the date 1690.

Some of the silver Money of 1699, has the addition of a rose in the quarters upon the reverse, being from the mines in the west of *England*, which are coined for

<sup>a</sup> Kennet's Hist. of Eng. vol. 3, p. 467.

<sup>b</sup> Sir Isaac Newton's Letter to the Treasury, 21st September, 1717.

W. & M.

The Money coined at *Bristol, Chester, Norwich, York* and *Exeter*, are distinguished by the letters *B. C. N. Y.* or *y.* and *E.* under the King's head.

The small Pieces, from a Groat to a Penny, have the King's head and epigraphe, like the larger Pieces, but upon the reverse have the figures 1. 2. 3. 4. under a crown, denoting their values, but without any graining upon the rim, none of these small Pieces having any, either before or since. There is a Groat of 1702, though the King died before that year, according to the *English* account.

The Guinea, Half Guinea, Forty Shilling and Five Pound Pieces, are strictly like the silver Money, except that the neck is bare, and the sceptres are added in the

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, N° 596.

W. & M. quarters upon the reverse. In 1701 was a new dye.

The copper Halfpence have his bust in short hair, laureat, GVLIELMVS TERTIVS. Reverse, *Britannia*, BRITANNIA. EX-ergue, the date, 1695; but one in 1699, has the date in the legend. That year an act<sup>a</sup> was passed to stop the coining of Halfpence and Farthings for one year, though it seems to have had no effect, there being not only the before mentioned Halfpence of that year, but of every year from 1695, to 1701, *inclusive*.

The *Scotch* Coins of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, have both their heads, as upon the *English* Money, but turned the contrary way, viz. to the right; GVLIELMVS. ET. MARIA. DEI. GRATIA.

The Forty Shilling Piece has 40 under the heads; reverse, MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. ET. REGINA. 1691. The arms in a shield crowned, viz. *Scotland* in the first and fourth quarters, *France* and *England* quarterly in the second, and *Ireland* in the third, *Nassau* in the centre. Upon the rim, PROTEGIT. ET. ORNAT. ANNO. REGNI. SECVNDO. for they did not

<sup>a</sup> Stat. 9 and 10 W. 3, c. 33.



commence their reign in *Scotland*, till *W. & M.*  
*April* 1689, and this is the first *Scotch*  
 Money with an inscription upon the rim:

The Sixty Shilling Piece has 60 under the head; the Twenty Shilling Piece 20; the Ten Shilling Piece 10; the Five Shilling 5; and this last, instead of the arms, has their cypher crowned; and from the Twenty Shilling Piece, downwards, have graining upon the rim;

The Babee has their heads, circumscribed, GVL. ET. MAR. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. ET. REGINA. Reverse, the crowned thistle, NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. 1692.

The *Botbwell*, instead of their heads; has their cypher crowned; in other respects like the Babee.

The Forty Shilling Piece of King *William*, has 40 under the bust laureat, GV-LIELMVS. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse as the former, MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1695. Upon the rim; PROTEGIT. ET. ORNAT. ANNO. REGNI. SEPTIMO.

The Twenty and Ten Shilling Pieces, have 20 and 10 under the head.

The Five Shilling Piece 5 under the head, GVL. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. & HIB.

W. & M. REX. Reverse, the branched thistle with three heads, NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. 1696. This and the two former being grained upon the rim.

The Babee is the same on both sides, but the thistle is single-headed, as it is also upon the *Bothwells*; but they have his name at length.

Another *Bothwell* has the sceptre and sword in saltier, under a crown, GVL. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. Reverse, the single-headed thistle with leaves, crowned, NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. 1696.

The Guinea and Half Guinea of *Scotland*, as some call them (and are in Mr. *Anderfon's* <sup>a</sup> Tables) have the King's head looking to the right, and under the head a rising sun, GVLIELMVS. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the arms crowned, between W. R. crowned, MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1701.

There is likewise a *Darien* Pistole of King *William*, having his bust on one side, GVLIEL. D. G. and reverse, the arms crowned between W. R.

<sup>a</sup> Diploma & Numisma Scotiæ, fol. Edinburgh, 1739.

In *Ireland*, a proclamation <sup>a</sup> was issued W. & M.  
the tenth of *July* 1690, to reduce the ex-  
travagant value of copper Money, to the  
value of the like copper Money formerly  
current in *Ireland*. King *William* and  
Queen *Mary* coined only Halfpence and  
Farthings (of copper, brass, and pewter)  
after the example of two of their imme-  
diate predecessors, and after the Queen's  
death, the King did the like.

These have both their heads, as upon  
their *English* Guinea; GVLIELMVS. ET.  
MARIA. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, MAG.  
BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. ET. REGINA.  
the harp crowned, with the date on each  
side, 1692. It is a neat copper Piece,  
grained upon the rim, weighing four pen-  
nyweights fifteen grains, which is near a  
third part lighter than the *English* Half-  
penny.

Those of King *William* have his head  
laureat, GVLIELMVS. III. DEI. GRA.  
Reverse, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.  
the crowned harp, and date, 1696.

<sup>a</sup> Kennet's Hist. Eng. vol. 3, p. 203.

QUEEN ANNE, A. D. 1701-2.

Q. Anne. { THE Money of Queen *Anne*, from a Penny to a Crown, has her Majesty's bust looking to the right, bareheaded, her hair bound with a fillet, and tied up behind ; ANNA. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, MAG. BRI. FR. ET. HIB. REG. 1702. The Groat, Threepence, Twopence, and Penny, have as many numerals as they contain Pence under a crown upon the reverse ; the larger Pieces have the four shields of *England, Scotland, France, and Ireland*, crosswise in the circular order, with the star of the garter in the centre. The Shilling and Sixpence grained upon the rim, the Crown and Half Crown with the usual inscription, DECVS. ET. TVTAMEN. ANNO. REGNI. TERTIO.

The Crown, Half Crown, Shilling, and Sixpence of 1703, coined out of the silver taken in the galleons at *Vigo*, for the honour of the nation, as well as to perpetuate the memory of that action, has the name *VIGO*. under the Queen's head.

The Money coined of the *Welch* silver, has the Prince of *Wales's* device in the quarters



quarters of the reverse. Others have the Q. Anne. rose and Prince's device alternately in the quarters, commonly called *Quakers Money*, some of that denomination being supposed to be proprietors of the Mines.

Upon the union of the two kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, the arms being altered, the same was observed upon all the Money coined afterwards, the arms of *England* and *Scotland* being impaled in the first and bottom shields, *France* in the sinister, and *Ireland* in the dexter, according to this left handed rotation, which, however irregular and absurd, has prevailed ever since the first milled Money.

The Guineas, Half Guineas, Double Guineas, and Five Pound Pieces, are all alike, bearing the same stamp as the silver Money, with the addition of the sceptres upon the reverse. There is a Five Pound Piece of the *Vigo* gold, with the word *VIGO.* under the head.

There was likewise some few copper Halfpence and Farthings coined. The Halfpenny has her Majesty's bust like the silver Money, only upon these her hair is gathered up behind, without a fillet, ANNA.

<sup>a</sup> Thoresby, N<sup>o</sup> 639.

Q. Anne. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REG. Reverse, the figure of *Britannia*, with the crown over her head.

The Farthing has her bust like the Half-penny, only her hair is tied with a fillet of pearl, the ends hanging down behind; ANNA. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, *Britannia*, BRITANNIA. 1713. Another of 1714. has the date in the exergue.

Her *Scotch* Ten Shilling Piece has 10 under her Majesty's head looking to the right, like her *English* Money, ANNA. DEI. GRATIA. Reverse, the royal arms under the crown, MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HIB. REG. 1705.

<sup>2</sup>S. P. VI. N<sup>o</sup> 50. The Five Shilling Piece has 5 under the head, ANNA. D. G. MAG. BR. FR. & HIB. R. Reverse, the thistle with three heads, under the crown, NEMO. ME. IMPVNE. LACESSET. 1705, or 1706. Both these have graining upon the rim.

By the articles of union<sup>a</sup> with *Scotland* in 1707, the Coin was to be of the same standard and value, throughout the united kingdom, as was then in *England*, and the loss thereby to private persons, was to be made good out of the equivalent Money

<sup>a</sup> St. 5 Annæ, ch. 8. Article 15, 16.

granted to *Scotland*, and a mint was to be continued there, under the same rules as the mint in *England*. To support the charge <sup>a</sup> of which mint in *Scotland*, one thousand two hundred Pounds was appropriated by the parliament, to be paid yearly out of the coinage duty. Accordingly, upon the union, Crowns, Half Crowns, Shillings, and Sixpences were coined at *Edinburgh*, of the same stamp as those coined in the *London* mint, but having an E. for *Edinburgh* under the head.

Q. Anne.

2 S.P.VI.  
N<sup>o</sup> 49.

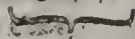
The gold and silver coined in this reign <sup>b</sup>, is thus computed:

	lb.	lb.
1701	26742	37477
1702	3642	114
1703	34	718
1704		4007
1705	104	429
1706	537	932
1707	607	1174
1708	1010	3751
1709	2468	25423
1710	3716	817
1711	9324	24768
1712	2855	1784
1713	13137	2333
1714	29526	1566
	lb. 93702	— 105293 lb.

<sup>a</sup> St. 7 Annæ, c. 24, sect. 3.

<sup>b</sup> Phillips's State of the Nation, 8vo. Lond. 1726, p. 55.

Q. Anne.

 Queen *Anne* coined <sup>a</sup> no sort of Money for *Ireland*, nor was any Money coined there; but we have copper Money of the *Isle of Man*, coined by the Earl of *Derby* Lord of *Man*, as Sovereign of that island. They are about the size of Halfpence and Farthings, but current there for Pence and Halfpence, having on one side the arms of the island, being three legs conjoined at the thigh, and flexed in triangle, with this motto, QVOCVNQVE. GESSERIS. STABIT. the true meaning of which, as a writer <sup>b</sup> informs us, is, That carry it where you will, it will not go or pass; but that the natives foolishly apply it to the posture of the feet. However foolish this application may seem to be, it is certainly the true one, if the legend has any relation to the legs, which are the arms of *man*, and allusive to the situation of the island, being equidistant from the three kingdoms, which are indeed the legs that support it; and for that reason they were assumed, instead of the ancient arms which was a ship. Reverse, is the eagle and child, the crest of the house of *Stanley*, with the motto, SANS,

<sup>a</sup> Irish Hist. lib. p. 175.

<sup>b</sup> Waldron's Works, fol. Lond. 1731, p. 183.



CAANOER. alluding to their unshaken Q. Anne,  
loyalty. Exergue 1709. Formerly the }  
*Manks* Money was leather <sup>a</sup>, which every  
man of substance was entitled to make, not  
exceeding a certain quantity limited by  
law, having no impression but the maker's  
name, and the date of the year; but the  
Money lately current there, was Pence  
and Halfpence of a base mixed metal,  
bearing the same stamp as the copper ones  
before-mentioned.

In this reign some regulations were first  
made with regard to the currency of  
Money in the plantations in *America*, to  
prevent the inconvenience from the dif-  
ferent rates of foreign Money of the same  
species in different places, and thereby  
draining the Money from one plantation to  
another. For this end the foreign Coins  
having been assayed at the mint, and their  
true value ascertained, a proclamation <sup>b</sup> was  
issued the eighteenth of *June* 1704, di-  
recting, that no *Sevil*, *Pillar*, or *Mexico*  
Piece of Eight, though the full weight of  
seventeen pennyweights and an half, should  
be received, or paid, for more than six Shil-  
lings the Piece current Money, and lesser

<sup>a</sup> Ib,<sup>b</sup> St. 6 Annæ, ch. 30,

Q. Anne. Pieces in proportion; and all Pieces of Eight of *Peru*, Dollars, and other foreign species of silver Coins, according to their weight and fineness, in the same proportion. But the same indirect practices being still carried on, the proclamation was afterwards enforced by an act of parliament, inflicting ten Pounds penalty, and six months imprisonment upon offenders, after the first day of *May* 1709: but not compelling any person to take them, or restraining her Majesty from altering the rates by proclamation, as she should see proper.

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GEORGE I. A. D. 1714.

George I. THE Coins of his Majesty King *George* the First, are of the same species and value as those of *Queen Anne*, with this stile, *Georgius Dei Gratia, Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex, Fidei Defensor; Brunswic. et Luneburgen. Dux, Sacri Romani Imperii Archi Thesaurarius, et Princeps, Elector*; but *PR.* for *Princeps*, was only inserted upon the gold Money of his first year, being afterwards omitted, though

though it has continued ever since upon George I.  
the great seal.

The silver Money, from the Crown to the Sixpence, are alike, having his Majesty's bust laureat, looking to the left, the *British* titles on the head-side, and the *Electoral* on the reverse, viz. GEORGIVS. D. G. M. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. FD. his Majesty being the first of our Kings that used the stile of *Fidei Defensor* upon his Money ; which is something remarkable, considering that it had constantly been used in the stile of our Kings, from the time that *Henry* the Eighth had that title conferred on him by the Pope. Reverse, BRVN. ET. LV. DVX. S. R. I. A. TH. ET. EL. 1715. The four shields crowned, and the star of the garter radiant in the centre. The arms being marshalled in the same circular order as upon the Money of the four preceding reigns, only upon these *Ireland* is placed in the bottom shield, and in the dexter (where *Ireland* was) are the arms of his Majesty's *German* dominions, viz. triangular, two in chief, and one in base ; first, *Brunswick*, two lions passant guardant ; second, *Lunenburgh*, semè of hearts, a lion rampant ; third, *Saxony*, a horse

George I. horse current; in an escutcheon in the centre *Charlemagne's* crown, as Arch-Treasurer of the empire. Upon the rim of the Crowns and Half Crowns, DECVS. ET. TVTAMEN. and the year of the reign.

2 S. P. VI. Some of these Pieces have the Prince's  
N<sup>o</sup> 51. device and rose alternately in the quarters.

Shillings of 1723, and 1724, have WCC. under the head, for *Welch* Copper Company, being made of the silver extracted from their mines: and upon the reverse have the Prince's device, and two c's interlinked, alternately in the quarters.

Likewise Shillings with ss. and c. in the opposite quarters, being of the *South-Sea* Company's silver.

The smaller Pieces, from a Groat to a Penny, have his Majesty's head like the former, and GEORGIVS. DEI. GRA. Reverse, MAG. BRI. FR. ET. HIB. 1720, and in the area a numeral of the value, under a crown.

The gold Money, viz. Guineas, Half Guineas, Forty Shilling, and Five Pound Pieces, are like the silver Money, with the usual difference, that is, the neck bare,  
and



and the sceptres added in the quarters; George L.  
the Guinea of the first year having like-  
wise the addition of PR. in the titles, the  
letters of the legend being also smaller  
than those that were coined afterwards.

The Guinea of 1722 is supposed to have  
his Majesty's face, the most resembling  
him of any; and that of the year 1724 is  
remarkable for a very broad margin, be-  
tween the legend and the edge of the  
Coin.

Hitherto Guineas had been current for  
twenty-one Shillings and Sixpence, and  
other gold Coin in proportion, which was  
a higher rate than gold was valued at  
abroad. This brought great quantities of  
foreign gold hither, and raising the price  
of silver in bullion, above silver in Coin,  
caused our silver Money to be melted down  
and transported; and this was the reason  
that so much gold was brought to the  
mint in this and the three following years,  
and so little silver. To remedy this incon-  
venience, the gold Money was now reduced  
by proclamation, the twenty-second of  
*December* 1717, viz. the Guinea to  
twenty-one Shillings, and no more; and  
Half Guineas, Double Guineas, and Five  
Pound

George I. Pound Pieces in proportion. The other Pieces of the ancient gold Coin of the kingdom, which had been received and paid for twenty-three Shillings and Sixpence, for twenty-three Shillings, and no more; and the Pieces of twenty-five Shillings and Sixpence, for twenty-five Shillings, and no more, the smaller Pieces in proportion.

In 1718 was coined a new species of Money, called *Quarter Guineas*, being the fourth part of a Guinea in value, and bearing the same stamp, but these being found too diminutive for use, no such Pieces have been coined since.

The gold and silver Coin to the year 1724, *inclusive*\*, was, as follows:

	<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>
1715—	39090—	1643
1716—	23765—	1650
1717—	15186—	948
1718—	3010—	2295
1719—	14745—	1756
1720—	18959—	7832
1721—	5832—	2313
1722—	12728—	1983
1723—	8306—	48099
1724—	5860—	1652
	<i>lb.</i> 147481—	70171 <i>lb.</i>

\* Phillips's State of the Nation, 8vo. Lond. 1726, p. 55.

The copper Halfpence and Farthings George I.  
 are very clumsy Pieces, though not so heavy  
 as King *William's* by ten grains, nor as  
 King *Charles's*, by above twenty, the pound  
 of copper valued in bars for coining at  
 eighteen Pence, making twenty-three  
 Pence in tale of copper Money. They  
 have his Majesty's bust with short hair  
 laureat, GEORGIVS. REX. Reverse, the  
 figure of *Britannia*, BRITANNIA. Ex-  
 ergue, 1717. Those of the first coinage are  
 not so broad as those that followed.

In *Ireland* there was a great want<sup>a</sup> of  
 small Money for change, in all the common  
 and lower parts of traffic, none having  
 been coined in the former reign: and  
 this want appeared by the common use of  
*Raps*, a counterfeit Coin, of such base  
 metal, that what passed for a Halfpenny,  
 was not worth half a Farthing; and con-  
 siderable manufacturers were obliged to  
 give Tallies, or Tokens in cards, to their  
 workmen, for want of small Money. Upon  
 this consideration, his Majesty granted a  
 patent to *William Wood*, Esq. for the term  
 of fourteen years, for the coining of Far-  
 things and Halfpence in *England*, for the

<sup>a</sup> Report of the Committee of Privy Council, 24th  
 July 1724.

George I. use of *Ireland*, under the inspection of a comptroller. The quantity for the whole term was limited to three hundred and sixty tons, in value one hundred thousand eight hundred Pounds, whereof one hundred tons was to be issued within one year, and twenty tons each year afterwards; the same to be made of fine *British* copper (as good as the *English* copper Coin) which, when heated red hot, would spread thin under the hammer, a pound to be coined into two Shillings and Sixpence, (which was Sevenpence more than the *English*) and without any compulsion or currency enforced, to be received by such only as would voluntarily and willingly accept the same. Accordingly, about seventeen thousand Pounds value of these Halfpence and Farthings were made and uttered in *Ireland*, in the years 1722 and 1723, having on one side the King's head like the Guinea, but more resembling his Majesty, and a much handsomer Coin than the *English* Halfpenny, GEORGIVS. DEI. GRATIA. REX. Reverse, *Ireland*, represented under the figure of a woman in profile, sitting with a palm-branch in her right hand, and resting her left upon a harp,



harp, HIBERNIA, 1722, or 1723. But George I. the Farthing of 1722, has the figure of *Hibernia* sitting fronting, her head being turned to the right, and holding her harp on that side with both hands. These were undoubtedly the best copper Money ever made for *Ireland*, considerably exceeding those of King *Charles* the Second, King *James* the Second, and King *William* and Queen *Mary*, in weight, goodness, fineness, and value of the copper, as was proved by an assay taken by order of council. But notwithstanding all this, such a spirit of opposition and universal clamour was raised against them, that the *Irish* parliament, in 1724, addressed <sup>a</sup> the King to put a stop to the course of them, as being prejudicial to the revenue, to commerce, to private property, and of dangerous consequence: and charging the patentee with great fraud, in making and importing great quantities, much lighter than was required by the patent, and making an excessive gain; and represented, that such a power, vested in the hands of any body or private person, was of dangerous consequence; entreating his Majesty, whenever he thought it neces-

<sup>a</sup> Historical Register, 1724, p. 133, 134.

George I. sary to coin any Farthings or Halfpence, the same might be made as near the intrinsic value as possible, and whatever profits should arise thereby, might be applied to the public service. This was referred to a Committee of the Privy Council, and papers and witnesses were sent for to *Ireland* to support the allegations; but after waiting four months, not one of either were offered to be produced, but, on the contrary<sup>a</sup>, it appeared, that the patent to Mr. *Wood* was legally and properly passed; that the Money in weight, goodness, and fineness, exceeded the conditions of the patent; that the patentee made no unreasonable profit; and that it was his Majesty's undoubted prerogative to grant such a power, as has been done by his predecessors without any complaint, though none of them had been equally beneficial to that kingdom. Whereupon his Majesty, with great justice and moderation, was pleased to direct in council<sup>b</sup>, the eighteenth of *August* 1724, that the said Halfpence and Farthings already coined by Mr. *Wood*, amounting to about seventeen

<sup>a</sup> Report of the Committee, 24th July, 1724.

<sup>b</sup> Historical Register, 1724, p. 264.

thousand Pounds, and as much more as George I.  
 made up the same forty thousand Pounds, }  
 should be permitted to be current, pursuant  
 to the terms of the patent: but after-  
 wards, for the satisfaction of the parliament  
 of *Ireland*, Mr. *Wood* surrendered his pa-  
 tent.

About the same time that copper Money  
 was provided for *Ireland*, there was a new  
 species of Money coined for the use of  
 our colonies in *America*. They were made  
 of a mixed metal resembling brass; one  
 Piece near as broad as a Half Crown, ano-  
 ther about the size of an *English* Halfpenny,  
 and a third about the size of a Farthing,  
 all bearing the same stamp, viz. on one  
 side his Majesty's head, like the Guinea,  
 GEORGIUS. D. G. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET.  
 HIB. REX. Reverse, a large double rose,  
 and over it, ROSA. AMERICANA. 1722.  
 In a scrowl under it, VTILE. DVLCI.  
 Others of 1723, have the rose crowned.

As I have in every reign taken notice of  
 the Coins of our Kings struck in parts be-  
 yond the seas, it will be proper to take  
 some notice of those of his Majesty's *German*  
 dominions, especially as they bear the same

George I. figure, titles, and arms as the *English*; but, to our discredit, they have a better impression, more resembling his Majesty, and a much handsomer Coin than the *English*, *Brunswick* having been long famous both for good workmen and good Money.

The Rix Dollar is a noble Coin, broader than the *English* Crown, but lighter, exhibiting his Majesty's bust laureat, looking to the left, like his *English* Money, GEORGIVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FR. ET. HIB. REX. F. D. Reverse, the royal atchievement, or arms, within the garter, with crown, supporters, and motto, DIEV. ET MON. DROIT. Circumscribed with his Electoral titles, BRVN. ET. LVN. DVX. S. R. I. A. THES. ET. EL. 1716. But has neither inscription nor graining, upon the rim.

Others have graining upon the rim, and upon the reverse the four shields crowned, like the *English*, with the value in the centre; and most of the Half Dollars or lesser Pieces, are of this sort.

I have likewise seen a Coin of his Royal Highness the Duke of *York*, Bishop of *Osnaburgh*, larger than a Half Crown, ERNEST. AVGVST. D. G. DVX. EBOR. &

ALB.



ALB. EPISC. OSNABR. with his full at- George I.  
 chievement, viz. within the garter the  
 royal arms, with a label of three points,  
 each charged with three human hearts, and  
 in the centre, instead of *Charlemagne's*  
 crown, the arms of the bishopric of *Osnaburgh*, being a wheel of six spokes, all  
 under a coronet, composed of crosses and  
*fleurs de lis*. The crest of the lion and  
 royal supporters gorged with the like label,  
 and crowned with his proper coronet.  
 motto, PRO. LEGE. ET. GREGE. Re-  
 verse, DVX. BRUNSWICENSIS. ET. LVNE-  
 BURGENSIS. In the area, XXIII. MA-  
 RIEN. GROSCH. 1721.

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### GEORGE II. A. D. 1727.

THE Money of this King is of the Geor. II.  
 same goodness and value as that of his  
 Majesty King *George* the First. The  
 silver Coins, from a Crown to a Sixpence,  
 are alike, having the bust laureat, turned  
 to the right, GEORGIVS. II. DEI. GRA-  
 TIA. Reverse, the arms as his father's,  
 and all the titles abbreviated, M. B. F.

Geor. II. ET. H. REX. F. D. B. ET. L. D. S. R. I.

A. T. ET. E. 1727. Some have a rose in each quarter, others the Prince's device, and others the rose and feathers alternately: the Crown and Half Crown the usual inscription upon the rim, and Shillings and Sixpences the graining.

The smaller Pieces, from a Groat to a Penny, have the King's head like the larger Pieces, but no graining. Reverse, the figure of their respective values under a crown, and the date over it, MAG. BRI. FR. ET. HIB. REX.

The gold Money has his Majesty's head laureat, the neck bare, which has always been the difference between the Guinea and Shilling stamp, except on Queen *Anne's* Money. The titles are the same as upon the silver Coin, but, instead of misplacing the arms in four shields, as had been done upon all the milled Money since the restoration (except some few of King

<sup>2</sup>S.P.VI. *William* and Queen *Mary's*) the arms in  
 N<sup>o</sup> 5. these are properly disposed in one shield crowned. There were two dyes for Guineas in the first year; one very small, with large letters; the other broader, with very small letters; and some of the year

1729,

1729, have EIC. under the head, for *East-India Company*, it being coined of their gold. Geor. II.

Besides Guineas and Half Guineas, which had been the only current species of gold Money, coined since the establishment of the mill, a great deal of the old hammered Money of King *James*, and King *Charles* the First, and King *Charles* the Second, had been hitherto current, by the name of *Broad Pieces*, with their halves and quarters; some of which were diminished by wearing, others by clipping and filing; and though they were full weight, yet the receivers of the customs and excise, and the bank refused to take them, which was a great obstruction to trade, and the due circulation of Money. Whereupon a petition of several merchants, and others, was presented to the House of Commons, and upon their address, his Majesty was pleased to issue a proclamation, the first of *February* 1732, forbidding the currency of any of the said Pieces of twenty-three Shillings, or twenty-five Shillings, commonly called *Broad Pieces*, or any half or quarter thereof, and directing the receivers and collectors of the revenue, to receive the same by weight, for the space of one

Geor. II. year, at the rate of four Pounds one Shilling per ounce ; and to allow for all *Broad Pieces* brought to the mint within the said time, and to coin the same into other current Coin of the kingdom. The charge and waste in melting, attending the same, was to be made good out of the Monies arising by the coinage-duty. So that his Majesty is the first that absolutely forbid the use of hammered Money, the statute of the ninth of King *William* extending only to hammered silver Money.

In 1739 there was a new dye for every species of Coin, something better than the former, and the graining which had hitherto been diagonal strokes was now made angular, upon occasion of a gang of Guinea-filers, who had taken more liberty than usual with the Guineas, and for the discovery of whom a reward was publicly advertised. This alteration in the graining is certainly an improvement, not being so easily imitated as the straight strokes ; and if it was yet made more difficult to counterfeit, it would be a further security to the Money.

His Majesty's copper Halfpence and Farthings are like his father's, but a handsomer



fomer Coin, GEORGIVS. II. REX. but it <sup>Geor. II.</sup> was a notorious blunder in the Halfpenny of 1730, to leave the R out of his Majesty's name, and then publish them. The latter dye of 1739, is much the best.

In 1736, copper Halfpence and Farthings, of a beautiful dye, were coined for *Ireland*, having on one side his Majesty's head *Cæsar*-like, with short hair, laureat, the neck bare like the Guinea, GEORGIVS. II. REX. Reverse, the harp crowned, HIBERNIA. 1736. This is a remarkable instance of his Majesty's indulgence to the *Irish*, considering what had passed in relation to *Wood's* patent.

The gold Coins of his Majesty's Electoral dominions, exactly resemble those of *Great Britain*. The silver have likewise his head laureat, in like manner, with the same titles and arms in a shield crowned; but some have the horse current, with the legend, NEC. ASPERA. TERRENT. Others a wild man (one of his supporters) with the arms on the reverse.

After this deduction of the Coins to our own times, the present state of it naturally comes under consideration. Our gold  
Money

Geor. II. Money is in a good condition, nor has it suffered any extraordinary diminution, except some of it by filing, which a proper graining will effectually prevent. But great inconveniencies are found by the currency of foreign gold, the heaviest being sold by weight, and melted or filed, the lightest only being current. It is likewise very frequently counterfeited, which is not so easily discovered as in our own Money. Thus we suffer all the inconveniencies of bad Money, though we have good; and, which is very unreasonable, people are obliged (by necessity) to take foreign gold Money, which, when they have it, neither the officers of the revenue, nor the bank, will receive. This was the case of our own Broad Pieces, which were therefore called in; and the reason is much stronger with regard to foreign Coin. If it were any advantage to the public, that foreign gold should pass in payment, the advantage would still be greater, to pass in all payments: but, as that is not permitted, we may conclude, it is neither for the honour nor interest of the kingdom. We have not, indeed, at present so much as we have

have had, but what we have, is worse than Geor. II.  
ever.

As to the current silver Money, though the greatest part of it is not fifty years old, it is in such a condition, as to be a just cause of complaint. We have not, indeed, had any clipping as formerly, for that is impracticable upon the milled Money, but time has diminished it in a manner equivalent to clipping. Our Sixpences are, many of them, worn to Groats, and some Shillings not much better in proportion. The Half Crowns are not so bad, but then they are not so common; the latter ones, since King *William*, being most of them melted or transported; and Crowns seem to have answered no other end; they disappeared as soon as coined; and, indeed, are too burdensome for common use, two Half Crowns better answering the purpose.

It is the Sixpences and Shillings therefore which are to be regarded, as most useful: when they are reduced to blanks they cease to be Coins, and may easily be filed or counterfeited, if not safely, for it is impossible to prove such ever to have been coined. This is the case with many Sixpences and Shillings of King *William's*,  
which

Geor. II. which are the bulk of our silver Money; and in a few years will be the case of most of them. There is a degree of lightness, after which no Coin ought to be current. The worth is the intrinsic value, which makes it the measure of all other things: what it passes for above that, is upon the public credit, and the apprehension they may never be renewed, makes some already refused, and this will be more general, as they grow worse. The lightest of these, not being unlawfully diminished, might be yearly renewed out of the coinage-duty, without any considerable charge to the public; but, if continued, both the inconvenience, and loss attending it, will be proportionably greater.

*FINIS.*



# A T A B L E

O F

## E N G L I S H   S I L V E R   C O I N S .

Reign and Year.	Standard and Species.	Weight.	Value of the Pound by Tale.		
			dwts.	grs.	£. s. d.
Wm. I. A.D. 1066 } Wm. Rufus 1087 } Henry I. 1100	Pennies — —	0 24	1	0	0
	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Halfpennies and Farthings	— —	—	—	—
Stephen 1135 Henry II. 1154	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Sterling 11 oz. 2 dwts. fine 18 dwts. alloy	— —	—	—	—
	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
Richard I. 1189 John 1199	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Halfpennies and Farthings	— —	—	—	—
Henry III. 1216 —	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Halfpennies and Farthings	— —	—	—	—
Edward I. 1272 A.R. 3	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Pennies —	0 23½	1	0	3
	Halfpennies and Farthings	— —	—	—	—
18	Groats of various weights {	from 94 } to 139 }	—	—	—
Edward II. 1307	Pennies —	0 23½	1	0	3
Edward III. 1327	Pennies —	— —	—	—	—
	Halfpennies and Farthings	— —	—	—	—
A.R. 18	Pennies —	0 21¼	1	2	6
	Halfpennies and Farthings	— —	—	—	—

# A TABLE OF ENGLISH SILVER COINS.

Reign and Year.	Standard and Species.	Weight.		Value of the Pound by Tale.		
		dwts.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
25	Groats and Half Groats	3	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	1	5	0
43	Pence and Halfpence					
	The same, but said to be } something lighter }					
46	The same as the 25th year	—	—	—	—	—
Richard II. A.D. 1377	The same, with the ad- } dition of Farthings }	—	—	—	—	—
Henry IV. A.D. 1399	The same	—	—	—	—	—
A. R. 15	The same	2	16	1	10	0
Henry V. A.D. 1412	The same	—	—	—	—	—
Henry VI. 1422	The same	—	—	—	—	—
Edward IV. 1460-1	The same	—	—	—	—	—
A. R. 4	The same species	2	3	1	17	6
49 H. 6. A.D. 1470	} The same	—	—	—	—	—
10 E. 4		—	—	—	—	—
Rich. III. A.D. 1483	The same	—	—	—	—	—
Henry VII. 1485	The same	—	—	—	—	—
A. R. 19	Shillings	—	—	—	—	—
Hen. VIII. A.D. 1509	Groats and Half Groats, } Shillings, Pence, Half- }	—	—	—	—	—
	pence, and Farthings }					
A. R. 18	Groats and other species, } as before	1	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	5	0
25	Crown Pieces, some few	—	—	—	—	—
34	10 oz. fine, and 2 oz. alloy	—	—	—	—	—
34	Groats and Half Groats	1	16	2	8	•
	Testoons or Shillings					
	Pence, Halfpence, and Far.					
36	Six oz. fine and 6 oz. alloy	—	—	—	—	—
	The same species	—	—	—	—	—
37	Four oz. fine and 8 oz. alloy	—	—	—	—	—
	The same species	—	—	—	—	—
Edw. VI. A.D. 1546-7	Shillings, Groats, Pence, } Halfpence, and Farth. }	—	—	—	—	—
A. R. 3	Six oz. fine and 6 oz. alloy	—	—	—	—	—
	Shillings	3	8	3	12	•
5	Three oz. fine & 9 oz. alloy	—	—	—	—	—
	Shillings	—	—	—	—	—
	Eleven oz. 1 dwt. fine					
	19 dwts. alloy					
	Shillings and Sixpences	4	0	3	0	•
	Threepences, Pennies, } Halfpennies, and Far. }					

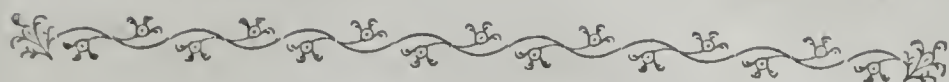
# A TABLE OF ENGLISH SILVER COINS.

Reign and Year.	Standard and Species.	Weight.	Value of the Pound by Tale.		
			dwts.	grs.	£. s. d.
Mary I. A. D. 1553	Crowns and Half Crowns				
	11 oz. fine and 1 oz. alloy				
Elizabeth A. D. 1558	Shillings, Sixpen. Groats, Half Groats, Threepences				
	Pence, and Halfpence				
A. R. 2	3 oz. fine and 9 oz. alloy				
	Rosepennies and Halfpen.				
A. R. 2	11 oz. fine and 1 oz. alloy				
	Shillings and Sixpences				
A. R. 2	Groats, Half Gr. and Pence				
	Sterling 11 oz. 2 dwts. fine				
A. R. 2	18 dwts. alloy				
	Shillings and Sixpences				
A. R. 2	Groats and Half Groats, Threepences, Threepenny Pieces, Threepenny Pieces, Farthings				
	Shillings and Sixpences				
A. R. 2	Two pences, Pence & Halfp.				
	Crowns and Half Crowns				
James I. A. D. 1602-3	Portcullis Crowns or Dollars				
	Half Dollars, Quarter Dollars, and Rials or Testers				
James I. A. D. 1602-3	Shillings and Sixpences				
	Two pences, Pence, Halfp.				
Charles I. A. D. 1625	Crowns and Half Crowns				
	The same				
Charles I. A. D. 1625	The same				
	Shillings and Sixpences				
Charles I. A. D. 1625	Groats and Threepences				
	Two pences, Pence & Halfp.				
Charles I. A. D. 1625	Crowns and Half Crowns				
	Ten Shilling and Twenty Shilling Pieces				
Charles I. A. D. 1625	Besides many obfidional Pieces, of various weights, struck in the civil war				
	Shillings and Sixpences				
Com. Wealth AD. 1649	Two pences Pence, Halfp.				
	Crowns and Half Crowns				
Oliver A. D. 1656	Shillings and Sixpences				
	Crowns and Half Crowns				

# A TABLE OF ENGLISH SILVER COINS.

Reign and Year.	Standard and Species:	Weight.		Value of the Pound by Tale.		
		dwts. grs.		£.	s.	d.
Charles II. A. R. 12 A. D. 1660.	Shillings, Sixpences, Groats, Threepences, Twopences, Pence, Crowns, and Half Crowns	—	—	—	—	—
	14 The same species of the milled Money, which has been continued ever since — —					





A

# T A B L E

O F

## ENGLISH GOLD COINS.

Reign and Year.		Standard, Species, and Value.	Weight.	Value of the Pound by Tale.		
			dwts. grs.	£.	s.	d.
Edw. III. A.R. A.D.	17	O. S. 23 carats 3 grains				
	1344	and half fine, and half a grain alloy				
		Florins at 6 Shillings	4 19 $\frac{1}{4}$	15	0	0
		Half and Quarter Florins				
	18	O. S. Nobles at 6s. 8d.	6 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	13	3	4
Richard II. Henry IV.		Half and Quarter Nobles				
	20	The same	5 17	14	0	0
	25	The same	5 8	15	0	0
	1377	The same	— —	—	—	—
	1399	The same	— —	—	—	—
Henry V. Henry VI. Edward IV.	13	The same	4 19 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	13	4
	1412	The same	— —	—	—	—
	1422	The same	— —	—	—	—
	1461	The same	— —	—	—	—
	4	O. S. Nobles at 8s. 4d.	— —	20	16	8
1470.		Half and Quarter Nobles				
	5	O. S. Nobles or Rials at 10s.	5 8	22	10	0
		Half and Quarter Rials				
		Angels at 6s. 8d.	3 13 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
		Angelets or Half Angels				
49 Henry VI. 10 Edw. IV.		Angels and Angelets	— —	—	—	—
		Rials, Halves & Quarters	— —	—	—	—
		Angels & Angel. as before	— —	—	—	—

# A TABLE OF ENGLISH GOLD COINS.

Reign and Year.		Standard, Species, and Value.	Weight.		Value of the Pound by Tale.		
			dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Richard III.	1483	The same —	—	—	—	—	—
Henry VII.	1485	O. S. The same —	—	—	—	—	—
		Sovereigns or Double Rials at 20s. and Half Sovereigns	10	16	—	—	—
Henry VIII.	1509	O. S. Sover. Rials, Half & Quarter Rials, Angels & Angelets, as before }	—	—	—	—	—
	18	O. S. Sovereigns at 22s. 6d.	10	0	27	0	0
		Rials at 11s. 3d.					
		Angels at 7s. 6d. —	3	8	—	—	—
		Half Angels					
		George Nobles at 6s. 8d.	2	23	—	—	—
		The Half called Forty Penny Pieces					
		N. S. 22 carats fine & 2 alloy					
		Crowns of the doub. rose 5s.	2	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	25	2	6
		Half Crowns					
A. R.	34	23 carats fine and 1 alloy					
		Sovereigns at 20s. —	8	8	28	16	0
		Half Sovereigns					
		Angels at 8s. —	3	8	—	—	—
		Half and Quarter Angels					
	36	N. S. 22 carats fine & 2 alloy					
		Sovereigns at 20s. —	8	0	30	0	0
		Half Sovereigns					
		Crowns at 5s. —	2	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
		Half Crowns					
	37	20 carats fine & 4 carats alloy					
		The same species	—	—	—	—	—
Edward VI.	1546-7	1 The same — —	—	—	—	—	—
		3 N. S. Sovereigns at 20s.	7	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	34	0	0
		Half Sovereigns					
		Crowns at 5s. —	1	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
		Half Crowns					
	4	O. S. Sovereigns at 24s.	10	0	28	16	0
		Half Sovereigns at 12s.					
		Angels at 8s. —	3	8	—	—	—
		Half Angels					
	5	O. S. Sovereigns at 30s.	10	0	36	0	0
		Angels at 10s. —	3	8	—	—	—
		Half Angels					
		N. S. Sovereigns at 20s.	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	33	0	0
		Half Sovereigns					

# A TABLE OF ENGLISH GOLD COINS.

Reign and Year.	Standard, Species, and Value.	Weight.		Value of the Pound by Tale.		
		dwts.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Mary I. 1553	1 Crowns at 5s. —	1	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
	Half Crowns					
	1 O. S. Sovereigns at 30s.	10	0	36	0	0
	Rials at 15s.					
	Angels at 10s. —	3	8	—	—	—
Elizabeth 1558	Angelets					
	1 O. S. Sover. Angels and } Angelets, as the former }	—	—	—	—	—
	N. S. Sovereigns at 20s.	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	33	0	0
	Half Sovereigns					
	2 Crowns and Half Crowns					
	O. S. The same as the first year, with the addition of Rials, at 15s. —	5	0	36	0	0
	19 O. S. Angels, Half and } Quarter Angels }	—	—	—	—	—
	A. R. 26 O. S. Nobles at 15s. —	5	0	36	0	0
	Double Nobles at 30s.	10	0	—	—	—
	43 O. S. Angels at 10s.	3	7	36	10	0
James I. 1602-3	Half and Quarter Angels					
	N. S. Sovereigns at 20s.	7	4	33	10	0
	Half Sovereigns					
	Crowns and Half Crowns					
	3 O. S. } The same —	—	—	—	—	—
	N. S. }					
	2 N. S. Sovereigns or Unites } at 20s. —	6	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	37	4	0
	Double Crowns at 10s.	3	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
	Britain Crowns at 5s.	1	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	—	—
	Thistle Crowns at 4s.	1	7	—	—	—
	Half Crowns at 2s. 6d.					
	3 O. S. Rose Rials at 30s.	8	21 $\frac{1}{4}$	40	10	0
	Spur Rials at 15s. —	4	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
	Angels at 10s. —	2	23	—	—	—
	9 All gold advanced 2s. in the pound by proclamation					
	10 O. S. Rose Rials at 30s.	8	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	44	0	0
	Spur Rials at 15s. —	4	2	—	—	—
	Angels at 10s. —	2	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
	N. S. Unites at 22s. —	6	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	40	18	4
	Double Crowns at 11s.					
	Britain Crowns at 5s. 6d.					
	Thistle Crowns at 4s. 4d. $\frac{3}{4}$					

# A TABLE OF ENGLISH GOLD COINS.

Reign and Year.	Standard, Species, and Value.	Weight.		Value of the Pound by Tale.		
		dwts. grs.		£.	s.	d.
	Half Brit. Crowns at 2s. 9d.					
17	O. S. Rose Rials at 30s.	8	2	44	10	0
	Spur Rials at 15s. —	4	1	—	—	—
	Angels at 10s. —	2	16 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
	N. S. Unites commonly } called Laurels at 20s. }	5	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	41	0	0
	Double Crowns at 10s.					
	Britain Crowns at 5s.					
Charles I. 1625	1 O. S. } The same —	—	—	—	—	—
	2 N. S. } The same —	—	—	44	0	0
	— O. S. Rose Rials at 30s.	8	2	44	10	0
	Spur Rials at 15s. —	4	1	—	—	—
	Angels at 10s. —	2	16 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—
	N. S. Unites at 20s. —	5	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	41	0	0
	Double Crowns at 10s.					
	Britain Crowns at 5s.					
	N. S. During the civil war } K. Charles struck Pieces of 10s. 20s. and Three Pounds }	—	—	—	—	—
Common Wealth 1649	N. S. Broad Pieces of 20s. } Halves and Quarters }	—	—	—	—	—
Oliver, Protector 1656	N. S. Pieces of 20s. & 50s.	—	—	—	—	—
Charles II. A. R. 12	N. S. Unites or Broad } Pieces, at 20s. }	—	—	—	—	—
	Halves and Quarters }					
15	N. S. Pieces called Guineas, of 20s. —	5	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	44	10	0
	Half Guineas 10s.					
	Double Guineas					
	Five-Pound Pieces —	26	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
James II. 1685	1 N. S. Guineas and Half } Guineas, Double Guineas and Five-Pound Pieces }	—	—	—	—	—
Wm. and Mary 1688	N. S. The same —	—	—	—	—	—
Anne 1702	N. S. The same —	—	—	—	—	—
George I. 1714	1 N. S. The same —	—	—	—	—	—
	4 Quarter Guineas —	—	—	—	—	—

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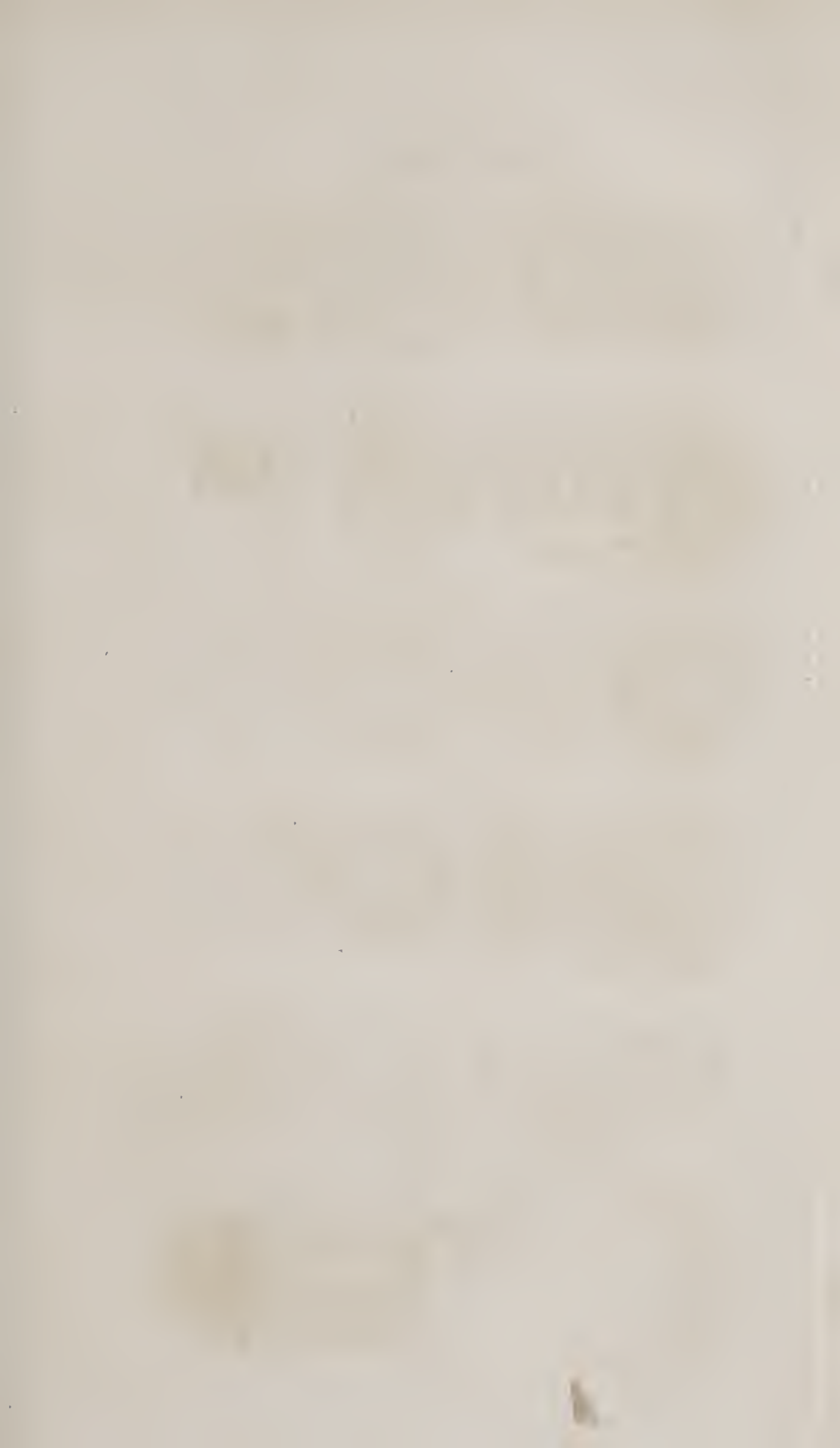
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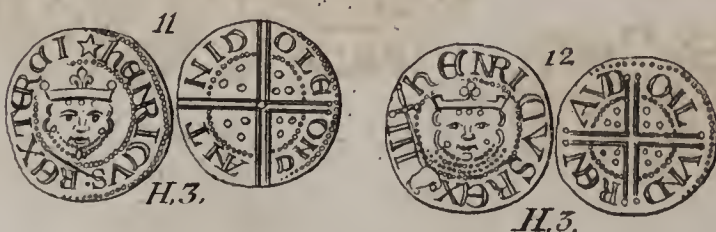
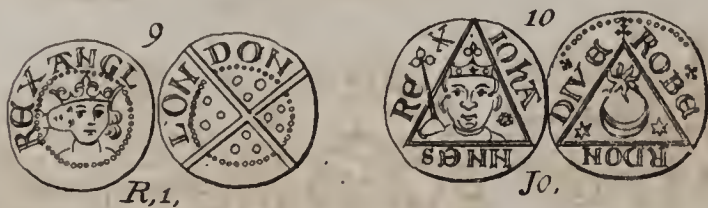
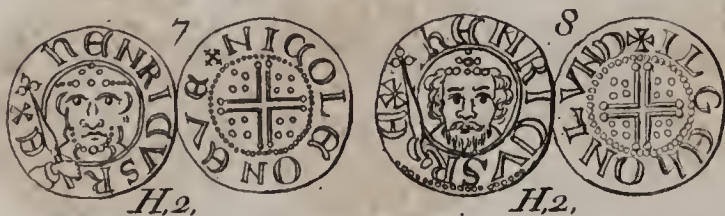
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F I N I S.



First Series.

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H 6



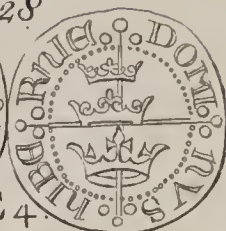
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E 4



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H

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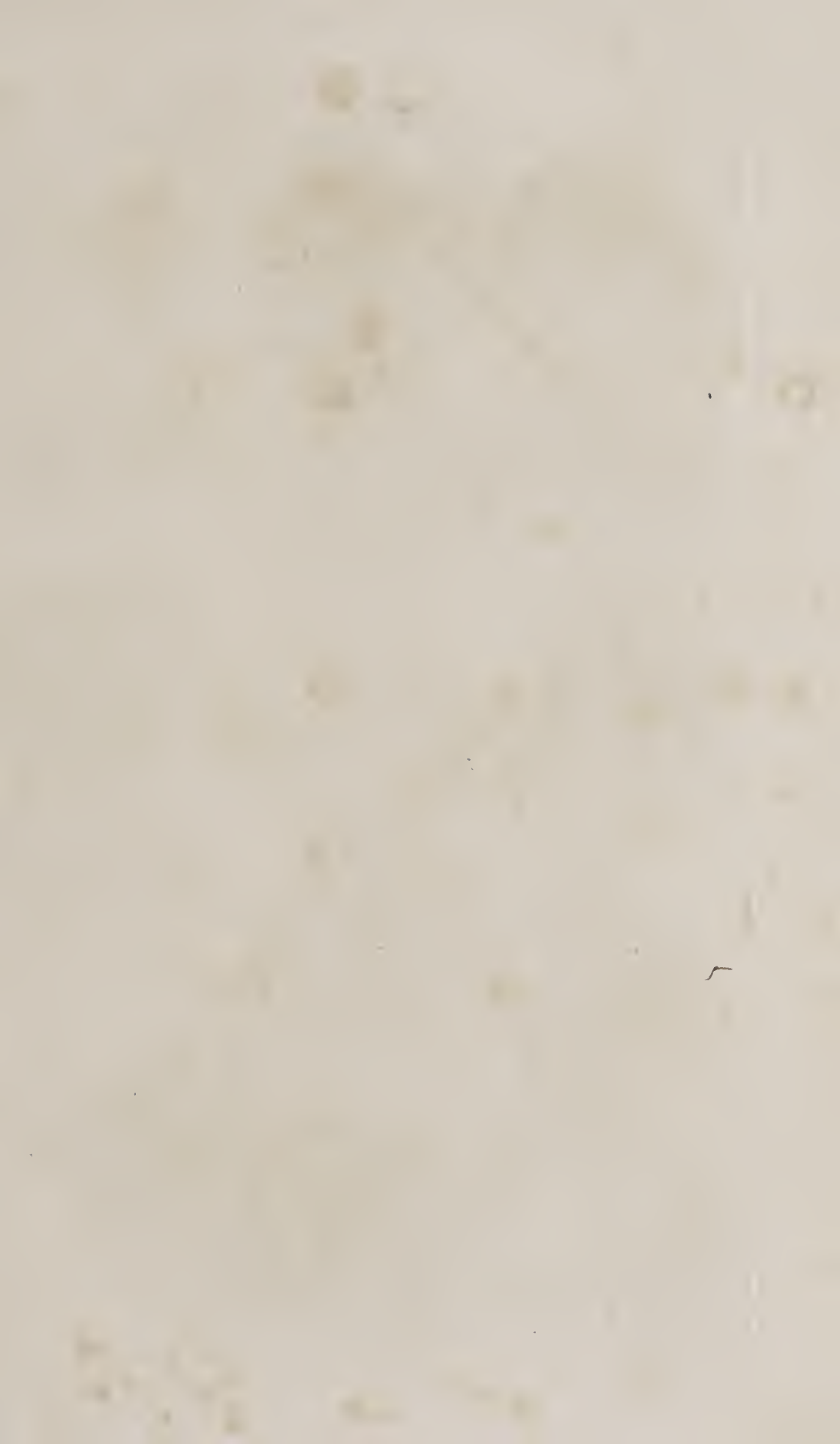
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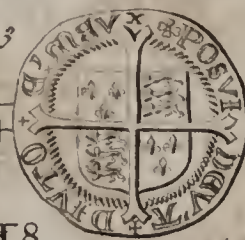
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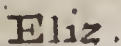
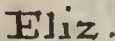
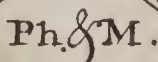


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1<sup>st</sup> s.

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Eliz.

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Eliz.

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I.1.



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I.1.

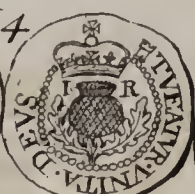


I.1.

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I.1.



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C.1.



C.1.

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C.1.

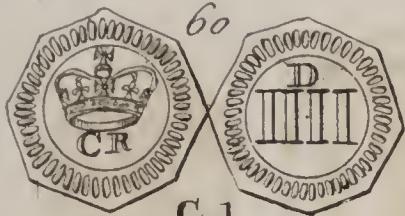


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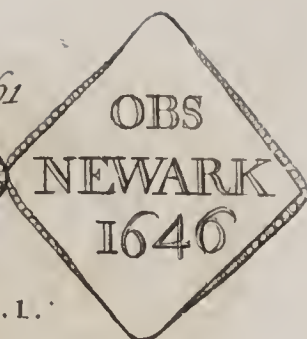
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C.1.



C.1.



C.1.



C.1.



C.W.



Pro.



C.2.









Second SERIES

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W.1



W.1



W. 2



W. 2



H.1



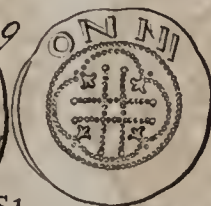
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S1



S1



E.1



E.3



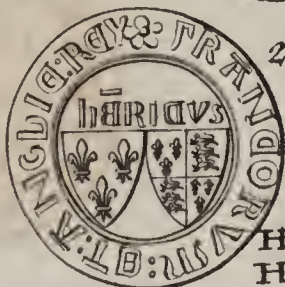
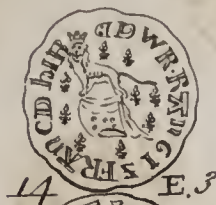
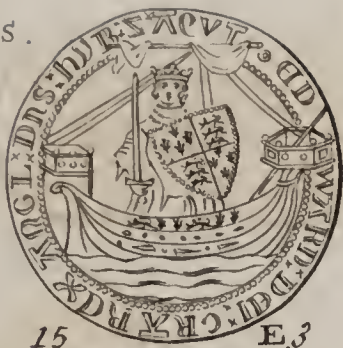
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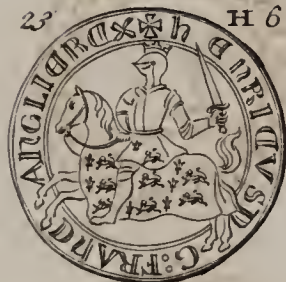
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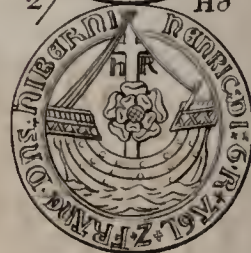
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H.7



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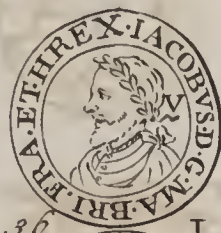
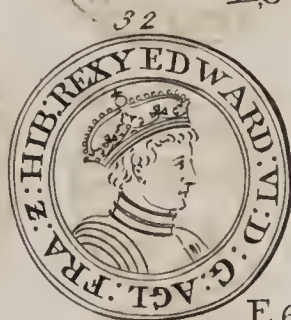
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H.8





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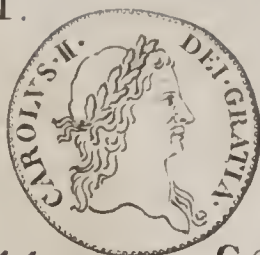


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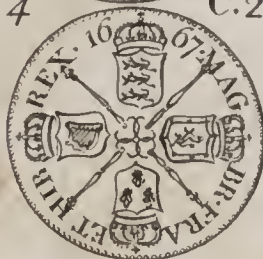


C. 2.



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C. 2.



I. 2.



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C. 2.



W. & M.



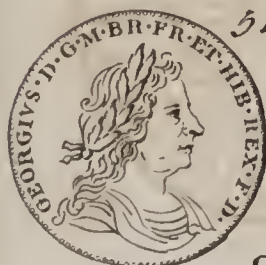
W.



A.



A.



G. 1.



G. 2.









# GOLD COINS OF GEO. III.



## SILVER COINS.



## COPPER COINS.



---

# A P P E N D I X.

## COINAGE OF HIS PRESENT MAJESTY GEO. III.

---

### GOLD.

THE Current coins are Guineas, fig. 3, and half Guineas, fig. 4. The Quarters, fig. 1, seem to have disappeared, although a large quantity were at one time in circulation; but from the inconvenience of their small size, and frequently becoming light, were after a few years circulation disused.

There have been of the two larger, a coinage in most of the years of his present Majesty's reign, and in greater quantities than in any preceding one; though less of silver, the gold is common.

In the year 1776, a coinage of seven shilling pieces in gold was proposed, and a pattern made; fig. 2, but an objection was suggested.

suggested, in the consultation of the council, that the same inconvenience might be experienced in these pieces as had been in the five and three-pences. This is not frequently to be met with.

A pattern was also made for a two guinea piece which is now scarce. And very scarce is a pattern for a five guinea piece struck in the year 1770.

### SILVER.

The first Silver of this reign is the shilling of 1763, fig. 5, of which it is said, only one hundred pounds worth was hastily struck, as is supposed for the Earl of Northumberland to distribute amongst the populace when he went Vice Roy to Ireland. The addition of the laurel round the head was made to the die of the guinea 1790, for the purpose of dispatch in striking this shilling, which is now rather scarce.

In 1762, one penny, two penny, three penny, and four penny pieces were coined; the head of each piece was similar to the specimen of the three pence described, fig. 6, and on the reverse of each piece



piece the figure of its respective value. They are frequently to be met with.

The next shilling is of the year 1764, and we believe only patterns were struck ; it is much more scarce than the former. The head is nearly the same.

The very beautiful shilling of the year 1775, is also a pattern, and very rare to be met with ; as is the shilling of 1778, which is but indifferently executed.

We are at a loss to account for the reason of no coinage of shillings being issued, after so many dies had been engraved ; the coinage of 1787, of shillings and sixpences, fig. 7, and 8, which was made for the use of the Bank of England, is very beautiful, and though frequently to be met with, is not in common currency ; and we can but lament, that a nation so great in its commercial and mercantile affairs, abounding with manufacturers and merchants, should suffer so base an imposition as the present silver currency appears to be ; for few, very few indeed, of the shillings and sixpences now in use, appear ever to have been legally coined.

In this present year 1792, there has been a coinage of one penny, two penny, and three penny pieces.

There has been no crowns or half crowns since the year 1751.

### COPPER.

The first Copper coin of this reign was half pence in the year 1770, and from thence to 1775 inclusive, a large quantity were coined, and are very common, fig. 9.

Farthings also, of the date 1775, fig. 11, and the two following years, are frequently to be met with.

There is an half penny of the year 1770, in which by mistake a letter is left out in the name of his Majesty; standing GEO-RIUS instead of GEORGIUS; it is seldom to be met with.

There has been a one penny piece struck, with a Negroes head on one side, and a pine apple on the other, with the words I SERVE, and on the reverse, BAR-BADOES PENNY. We do not know that this was struck by order of government

ment for the currency of that island; or for some merchants going there, but we esteem it a neat performance.

There is at this time, and for a few years past have been, a number of towns in the kingdom striking half pence. They have in general the arms of the town, and various devices analagous to the places they were struck at. Some have taken this method on account of the large number of base half pence now in circulation, and with which they are much annoyed. Most of these coins are neatly executed, and make no small addition to the collector's cabinet; they are much heavier than our national currency, and we hope it will be the means of government attending to an improvement in that part of the coinage.

### ISLE OF MANN.

There is a penny and half penny of this place, of the present reign, since the sovereignty has been purchased by government of the Duke of Athol; it is a neat dye, with the King's bust on the one side,

on the other three legs joined, being the arms of the Isle of Man; they have each neat grainery on the edge.

There has been Copper half pence for Ireland, fig. 10, of several years of the present reign, but we believe no farthings.

F I N I S.









